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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Do you support Bordallo's "Bonitan Tåsi" bill, which would give Guam management rights over the Marianas Marine Monument?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Chamber Recital

Accomplished flutist Jeanie Jang is back on Saipan and will perform with four of her friends.

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Grand Opening

The owners of Star Sands Plaza is holding a grand opening for the souvenir and gift shop today.

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Number One

James Cameron's "Avatar" has become No. 1 on the all-time domestic box-office chart.

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WASC: 'Series of events' may affect NMC's status

Commission accepts NMC's midterm report

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges has formally accepted the midterm report submitted by the Northern Marianas College but said the "series of events" on campus could put NMC out of compliance with the commission's other standards.

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Senate formally invites Obama to visit CNMI

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

On a 9-0 vote, the Senate adopted yesterday a resolution formally inviting President Barack Obama to visit the CNMI when he and his family stop on Guam on their way to Indonesia and Australia in March.

See SENATE on Page 4

Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota), center, is flanked by Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), left, and Sen. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan), right, during a Senate session break yesterday morning, to confer on Reyes' resolution formally inviting U.S. President Barack Obama to also visit the CNMI when he stops by Guam on his way to Indonesia and Australia in March. Also in photo is outgoing Senate legal counsel Ian Catlett, seated right. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Govt now seeks design for long awaited Tinian landfill

- Officials say $5.4M set aside for project
- CRM yet to issue conditional permit

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI government is now soliciting bids for the architectural and engineering design of the long-awaited Tinian sanitary landfill, which has some $5.4 million in available federal and local funding, even as the conditional permit for the project is still being developed by Coastal Resources Management officials.

The Tinian landfill project is to be located at the Atgidon area.

Senate Vice President Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian)

See LANDFILL on Page 4

US Labor says NMI employers must pay prevailing wage to foreign workers

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. Department of Labor has said that CNMI employers are obligated to pay the prevailing wage to foreign workers in visa classifications requiring labor certifications—such as H visas—so as not to depress wages for U.S. workers.

Employers, however, are not required

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HARPER COLLEGE

File photo shows Jane Oates, U.S. Labor assistant secretary of Employment and Training Administration.

Schorr neighbors allegedly slash his cars' tires. PAGE 3

Record number of students nominated to Service Academies. **PAGE 13**

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Local

Local flutist, friends to perform the classics

Accomplished flutist Jeanie Jang is back on her adopted island and will perform with four of her friends tomorrow at two venues on Saipan.

Invitation to Classic will first be held at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's restaurant beginning at 2pm Saturday. It will then be followed by a 7:30pm show at the Saipan Presbyterian Church. Both shows are free to the public.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Flutist Jeanie Jang, second from left, will perform with her friends, from left, pianist Joo-Yeon Lee, horn player Hye-joon Ju, and cellist Hyun-Jung Lee at the Hyatt Regency Saipan and Saipan Presbyterian Church tomorrow. Not in photo is oboist Hye-yeon Ju.

The performance will be chamber music style, which is a form of classical music written for a small group of instruments that traditionally could be accommodated in a palace chamber.

Jang grew up on Saipan dreaming to become a successful musician. She left to study abroad and eventually graduated with a bachelor's degree at the Boston Conservatory.

The daughter of local Korean businessman Hyew Tuck Jang and his wife He Hyun, Jang went on to earn her master's degree and performer's diploma at Indiana University Bloomington Jacob's School of Music and holds a doctoral degree at Arizona State University.

Along the way, Jang was given a CNMI government award in performing awards, won the soloist prize in the Arizona Concert, as well as took part in the Emmg chu chu summer music festival recital series in her native South Korea, and performed in the 2010 Flute and Rising Flutist Concert. She is currently a teaching assistant at ASU.

Jang said she and her friends are performing on Saipan to show that you can be a successful musician even though you come from a "small place" like the CNMI.

She said she wants to inspire local musicians and aspiring artists that their dreams can come true if they persevere and try hard enough.

Performing with Jang are cellist Hyun-Jung Lee, pianist Joo-Yeon Lee, oboist Hye-yeon Ju, and horn player Hye-joon Ju.

Like Jang, Hyun-Jung Lee earned her master's degree at Indiana University Bloomington Jacob's School of Music, where she also received her doctoral degree. Joo-Yeon Lee, for her part, has a bachelor's and master's degree from Ewha Women's University and performed with the Seoul Academy Symphony Orchestra.

Hye-yeon Ju also finished her studies at the Ewha Women's University and won in the AUDI Mozart Oboe Competition. Hye-joon Ju has a Peabody Conservatory master's degree and graduate performer's diploma from the same school.

Invitation to Classic is sponsored by the Laolao Bay Golf Resort, L.A. Tax-free Shop, Palms Resort Saipan, Holiday Inn Resort Saipan, and Sky Castle Limousine. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

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CDA's loan delinquency rate at 63 percent

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

More than half of the Commonwealth Development Authority's active loan borrowers are on the agency's delinquent list.

CDA records showed that, as of November 2009, there were a total of 52 active borrowers under the Development Corporation Division, of which 33 were classified as delinquent. This translates to a delinquency rate of 63 percent.

Although this is quite high, CDA loan manager Oscar C. Camacho pointed out that the number is based on the total population of active loan borrowers. He said that CDA's total delinquent cash value is only at 35 percent, at $5.5 million.

The agency's total outstanding loan balance as of November 2009 is $15.8 million.

DCD performing loans are active loans that are being paid within their terms of agreement and include those who availed of the debt relief program, which, at 2 percent, is the lowest interest rate offered by the agency.

Camacho described the 2009 figure as "good" compared to the previous years' DCD loan performances.

"This is a good figure…and we've seen a lot of improvements with respect to collections," he said.

Active loans are broken down into four classifications: microloans, debt relief program, direct loans, and guaranty.

Direct loans have the biggest number of borrowers, totaling 41 as of November 2009. Total amount loaned out is $10.5 million and cash value delinquency is at $5.4 million. Of the 41 borrowers, 23 are behind in their payments. CDA said 28 are commercial borrowers; eight are in marine; three in agriculture; and two in real estate.

Borrowers under the debt relief program come second, with 20 total borrowers, of which nine are delinquent. Total money loaned out is $5.3 million.

CDA recorded only one borrower under the microloans, who is also behind in payments. Total outstanding loan balance as of November last year was $5.8 million.

There is only one guaranty borrower, with an outstanding loan balance of $28,866.

Meantime, CDA reported a total of 59 matured loans as of 2009 with outstanding balance of $5.1 million as of the same period last year.

DCD was established to serve as the economic development loan fund agency for qualified private sector enterprises, pursuant to Public Law 4-49.

Schorr neighbors allegedly slash his cars' tires

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

R. Jeffrey Schorr, the U.S. Department of the Interior's field representative on Saipan, is suing two of his neighbors for allegedly slashing the tires on both of his cars.

Schorr, through counsel Robert J. O'Connor, asked the Superior Court to order Reyad "Abba" Tagle and Jose "Joey" Mari Bautista to pay him damages.

Schorr also asked the court to issue an injunction ordering Tagle and Bautista to stay off his leased premises.

"This is a very uncomfortable situation for Mr. Schorr. Both of these men are still his neighbors and neither of them has offered to pay for the damage. Mr. Schorr felt he had no choice but to file suit," said O'Connor in a statement yesterday.

O'Connor stated in the complaint that Tagle and Bautista are roommates who live next door to Schorr. He said the two are often drunk, loud and unruly, disturbing Schorr, his wife, and their child.

"The defendants are unhappy about where [Schorr] parks his cars at night," he said.

The lawyer said that on Dec. 9, 2009, the two entered Schorr's property without permission and slashed all four tires of Schorr's two cars.

"As a result of this slashing, the eight tires were rendered useless and had to be replaced," he said.

O'Connor said the lawsuit seeks to recover the money Schorr had to spend to replace his tires as well as punitive damages for the "malicious mischief" and trespass.

Schorr and his family had just moved into the area when the incident happened.

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US LABOR

From Page 1

to conduct wage surveys.

Jane Oates, U.S. Labor assistant secretary of Employment and Training Administration, also said that wage determinations will be based on the local minimum wage of $4.55 an hour for the CNMI until the minimum wage increases on Sept. 30, 2010.

The prevailing wage is different from, and is generally higher than, the minimum wage.

In the CNMI, the current minimum wage is $4.55 an hour, and will increase by 50 cents every year until it reaches the federal wage floor of $7.25 an hour.

Oates, in a Feb. 2 response letter to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), said employers—including those from the CNMI—are not required to provide a private wage survey when applying for a prevailing wage determination from the U.S. Labor's National Prevailing Wage and Helpdesk Center.

"However, they are allowed to submit a survey if they choose to have it evaluated for use or to challenge a determination provided by the NPWHC," Oates told Sablan.

There are companies specializing in conducting and publishing such surveys using the proper methodology outlined in the U.S. Labor's regulations and prevailing wage guidance issued in November 2009.

The guidance can be accessed online at www.foreignlaborcert.doleta.gov, under the heading, "Info and Resources."

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members, had asked Sablan for help in clarifying issues related to the prevailing wage.

The Chamber also noted that the U.S. Labor has not made its presence felt in the CNMI even after the CNMI immigration came under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009.

Sablan wrote a Jan. 13 letter to U.S. Labor Secretary Hilda Solis, specifically asking for clarification on the obligation of employers in determining the prevailing wage, as well as the process by which prevailing wages will be determined and the minimum from which that prevailing wage will be determined.

Sablan's letter was referred to the U.S. Labor's ETA, which is responsible for administering the department's Foreign Labor Certification Program.

"Employers seeking to hire foreign workers in visa classifications that require certification from the department are required to obtain a prevailing wage determination for the area of intended employment for the wage that is required to be paid," Oates told Sablan.

The Immigration and Nationality Act mandates a prevailing or required wage. It requires that the employment of foreign workers being admitted to the United States must not adversely impact the wages of similarly employed U.S. workers.

"Employers are accordingly obligated to pay at least the prevailing wage to those foreign workers who are admitted in visa classifications requiring labor certificates," Oates said.

Some of the U.S. Labor programs also require the employer to advertise the wage the employer intends to pay, which cannot be lower than the required wage rate.

Oates said the Office of Foreign Labor Certification is obligated to determine prevailing wages for the programs it oversees both by statute and regulation.

She said the government wage sources for the CNMI available to the OFLC at this time include the Service Contract Act wages and the Davis-Bacon Act wages. The Davis-Bacon wages have been set at $4.55 an hour for the CNMI.

"Therefore, any prevailing wage requests for construction-related jobs in CNMI received by OFLC will receive a rate of $4.55 until the minimum wage in CNMI increases on September 30, 2010," Oates added.

Oates also said the regulations under which OFLC operates obligate it to require the federal minimum wage rate be considered, and used as a prevailing wage if appropriate.

"ETA interprets that to mean the CNMI minimum wage, as it has been set by the federal government, in place at the time of determination," she added.

Prevailing wage is the hourly wage, usual benefits and overtime paid in the largest city in each county, to the majority of workers, laborers, and mechanics. The minimum monetary wages and fringe benefits to be paid are established based on what is prevailing in the locality.

A rate is determined to prevail where a single rate is paid to a majority (50 percent or more) of the workers in the same class in a particular locality.

LANDFILL

From Page 1

said yesterday that the project has some $5.4 million in available funding, both from 702 capital improvement project money and local money. This amount would cover the planning and actual construction of the landfill and the transfer station.

"The Tinian leadership continues to support the decision to have the landfill project on the west side of Tinian immediately south of Dump Coke or the Atgidon area. We are also going to continue addressing other issues with the Department of Defense with respect to a memorandum of understanding executed years ago on the use of military land," he said in an interview.

The delegation and the municipal government are looking at the construction of a transfer station just like the one on Saipan that would store the trash during military exercises before delivery to the landfill.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed the $5.4 million available for the Tinian landfill project.

"Of this amount, $4 million is from the 702 funds," he added.

Hofschneider, who is also the chairman of the Tinian Legislative Delegation, said the landfill project has dragged on for a long time, and has already cost close to $800,000 in developing the environmental impact assessment.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Procurement and Supply director Herman S. Sablan are set to issue today a request for proposal for the landfill's design.

Major siting permit

CRM director Dr. John Joyner said a conditional permit is still being developed by agency officials, who are expected to meet soon.

CRM held a public hearing on the Tinian landfill project in December following the Tinian Municipality's application for a major siting permit.

The CRM agency officials include representatives from CRM, Division of Environmental Quality, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, Historic Preservation Office, Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and Department of Commerce.

Joyner earlier said that, although the identified site is within the area being leased by the U.S. military area, the application doesn't require approval from the military.

The only condition set for using a portion of the site for the landfill is to close the area during extensive military exercises to protect villagers, he added.

Tinian has an existing open dump, which is a subject of health and environmental concerns raised by local and federal agencies. The dump is located southwest of Tinian near the airport, the Department of Public Works Tinian office said yesterday.

An official with the DPW on Tinian confirmed that two individuals were recently hired to monitor the existing open dump.

SENATE

From Page 1

Senators said it will be a "great honor" and an "extraordinary privilege" to have Obama pay an official visit to the CNMI while he is in the region.

Moreover, senators said Obama's visit will bring to the fore issues critical to the CNMI, including the recent federalization of its immigration, the military buildup in Guam that will also impact the CNMI, and the creation of the Marianas Trench National Monument and the authorization for a visitor center in the region.

In the House of Representatives, which will hold a session today, Rep. Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan) is poised to introduce a similar resolution officially inviting the president to the Commonwealth.

Benavente earlier planned to introduce a joint resolution. However, in light of House Speaker Froilan C. Tenorio's (Cov-Saipan) comments that such a presidential visit would cost taxpayers' dollars, a joint resolution may not pass the House and therefore not reach the Senate. The Senate thus went ahead and introduced its own resolution.

Sen. Pete P. Reyes (R-Saipan) introduced Senate Resolution 17-03, which was co-sponsored by all other eight senators yesterday.

"The CNMI's unique political status has created social and economic concerns distinct from those on Guam, and may warrant a special visit by the president to discuss our exceptional circumstances," the resolution partly reads.

All nine senators voted "yes." Sen. Luis Crisostimo (D-Saipan), however, said he voted yes with reservation. He said he echoes the House speaker's concerns that such visit will cost taxpayers' dollars, especially in these tough economic times.

The Senate session was held a day after Crisostimo, with the backing of Tenorio and the rest of the Covenant Party members in the House, lost to Rep. Ramon "Ray" A. Tebuteb (R-Saipan) in an election for chairman of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation.

Senators also offered floor amendments to Reyes' resolution, including inserting a paragraph stating that should Obama accept the CNMI's invitation, he will be the first sitting United States president to step foot in the CNMI.

The highest ranking U.S. official to ever set foot in the CNMI's capital of Saipan is former President George H.W. Bush, when he was still vice president to former President Ronald Reagan. Bush flew to Saipan on his way to a six-day visit to China in October 1985.

Another amendment offered was to also transmit a copy of the Senate resolution to Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP), besides transmitting copies to Obama, White House press secretary Robert Gibbs, CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, and CNMI House Speaker Froilan Tenorio.

A White House transcript of statements on Monday said that Obama and the first lady "will be traveling to Indonesia and Australia in the second half of March."

Gibbs said Obama "will visit Guam, where he will speak with U.S. service members on the island," adding that "we'll have more specific dates for you shortly after they are completely done with the pre-advance."

Fitial and Sablan had separately recognized the importance of a presidential visit to the Marianas, which is composed of Guam and the CNMI. Both said they have yet to receive more details from the White House about the presidential visit.

Benavente had said it would be nice if Fitial and Sablan would also write separate letters to Obama, formally inviting him to also visit the CNMI next month.

Other bills passed

Besides adopting Reyes' SR 17-03, the Senate also adopted in yesterday's session SR-17-02 which supports the Carolinian Affairs Office in the implementation of recommendations from the Carolinian Related Language Assistance Project and the first Carolinian Language Symposium on the maintenance and preservation of the indigenous language. The resolution was sponsored by Reyes and Sen. Ralph DLG. Torres (R-Saipan).

The senators also passed two bills introduced by Sen. Francisco Q. Cruz (R-Tinian), Senate Bill 17-04 and SB 17-06.

SB 17-04 amends the CNMI Gambling Act redefining the term "gambling device," among other things, while SB 17-06 seeks to include gaming commission officers as recipients of the Law Enforcement Officers' Benefit Act.

WASC

From Page 1

In her communication to NMC interim president Lorraine Cabrera that was released yesterday, commission president Dr. Barbara A. Beno said that NMC's October midterm report was accepted during the commission's Jan. 6-8 assembly. However, Beno said the commission also acted to require a "special visit" to NMC as soon as can be arranged due to the series of events that are happening at the college.

"The commission took this action because it learned of a series of events which may place the college out of compliance with the eligibility requirements, standards of accreditation, and commission policies," Beno told Cabrera.

Beno was alluding to the recent suspension of college president Dr. Carmen Fernandez, pending the results of investigations being conducted against her by both the Attorney General's Office and the Board of Regents. The investigations reportedly center on personnel issues and allegation that Fernandez changed the grades of some students.

Beno said the "special visit" will determine whether NMC is still in compliance with eligibility requirements and standards, particularly regarding its governing board, chief executive officer, administrative capacity, relations with the accrediting commission, and other standards.

Beno also pointed out that the commission is concerned about assertions made by some NMC staff claiming that the midterm report contains some false statements. Faculty Senate president Larry Lee had claimed in a recent report to the board that the midterm report was prepared by consultants and not by the entire college body, as expected by the commission.

"This raises commission concerns about institutional integrity and the institution's adherence to the commission's policy on the rights and responsibilities of ACCJC and member institutions in the accrediting process," Beno said.

She said the visiting team would also examine NMC's integrity in its relationship with the ACCJC and WASC.

NMC's next comprehensive evaluation report will occur in Fall 2012.

"On behalf of the commission, I wish to express continuing interest in the institution's educational quality and students' success. Professional self-regulation is the most effective means of assuring integrity, effectiveness, and quality," Beno said.

In its midterm report, NMC said the college has fully resolved recommendations related to inadequate services at the Tinian and Rota sites, board training, review of existing planning and resource allocation processes, program review, evaluation of employees, securing funding for the renovation or replacement of facilities, development and implementation of a technology plan, development and implementation of a governance process that includes ongoing assessment of the process, and securing a steady revenue stream from the NMC Legislature.

The report will become part of the college's accreditation history and should be used in preparing for the next comprehensive evaluation.

The commission previously placed NMC on probation status, followed by the more severe sanction of show-cause status, for failing to address the original six audit findings in 2006. It was only in June 2009 when the commission reaffirmed NMC's accreditation.

Extremely pleased

Acting interim president Dr. Patrick Moran said yesterday that they are extremely pleased to learn that the commission has accepted the college's midterm report and he commended the faculty, staff, and students for the efforts they poured into the completion of the report.

He vowed to continue efforts to position NMC for another successful comprehensive accreditation evaluation in 2012.

Moran also said that because the concerns raised in the letter were not detailed enough, the college will clarify matters with the team during its visit to the campus.

NMC accreditation liaison officer Galvin Guerrero said the acceptance is quite an accomplishment for the college.

"The commission's recognition of the college's progress reflects NMC's ongoing commitment to institutional effectiveness and continuous quality improvement. In that spirit of continuous quality improvement, the college looks forward to working with ACCJC to address any other concerns and to continue complying with the commission's requirements and standards," said Guerrero.

Suspect in machete attack on CHC staff arrested

Detective: Past relationship may have triggered assault

Police arrested in Susupe Wednesday night the motorist who allegedly attacked an employee of the Commonwealth Health Center with a machete Sunday.

Franklin Sablan Crisostomo, 42, was brought to the Superior Court yesterday on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, criminal mischief, and contempt of court. Preliminary hearing was set for Feb. 22 at 9am.

The court had initially imposed a $6,500 cash bail for Crisostomo but Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona increased it to $10,000 cash, citing the seriousness of the allegations and the fact that there is an outstanding Superior Court order of protection that bars Crisostomo from disturbing Thomas Asack, the alleged victim.

Asack, a respiratory therapist at CHC, has flown back to the U.S. mainland in the wake of the attack, *Saipan Tribune* learned. He was not injured as two witnesses managed to rescue him by getting him into their car, according to the Department of Public Safety.

Detective Simon T. Manacop stated in his report that Asack and Crisostomo had a past sexual relationship. Asack had wanted to end the relationship and on Jan. 13, 2010, associate judge Kenneth Govendo granted him an order to protection.

The alleged attack happened last Sunday around noon, DPS spokesman Eric David said. Asack was traveling south on a scooter along Middle Road when a silver CRV pulled near him, causing him to nearly crash. Fearing for his safety, Asack pulled along the parking lot of the Taste of India Restaurant and tried to call police for assistance. The CRV pulled into the parking lot and Crisostomo allegedly got down, swinging a machete and shouting he was going to kill Asack.

The victim ran until he reached the main highway of Middle Road. A witness aboard a vehicle pulled over to pick up Asack. The passenger of the car asked Asack to jump into the vehicle's back door.

The suspect stood in front of the vehicle and swung the machete, damaging the hood's front right portion. Crisostomo then allegedly moved to the driver's side and swung the machete, damaging the top left portion of the front windshield.

The driver-motorist drove the car to McDonald's parking lot where they called police for assistance.

When Asack returned to his scooter, he found that his backpack was missing. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Woman charged with bringing pesticide aboard plane

The U.S. government indicted yesterday a Chinese woman who allegedly brought a pesticide aboard an airplane in 2008.

The U.S. Attorney's Office charged the woman with reckless violation of the Federal Aviation Act and willful violation of the Hazardous Material Law.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated judge Robert C. Naraja imposed a $1,000 cash bail for her temporary liberty.

Saipan Tribune opted to temporarily withhold the name of the defendant as it remains unsure whether she is already in federal custody.

According to the indictment filed by assistant U.S. attorney Beverly R. McCallum, the defendant recklessly caused the transport of buprofezin on an aircraft on Oct. 9, 2008.

McCallum said the defendant's act was in violation of regulation and requirement prescribed by the Secretary of Transportation under the Federal Aviation Act.

No other details were given in the indictment. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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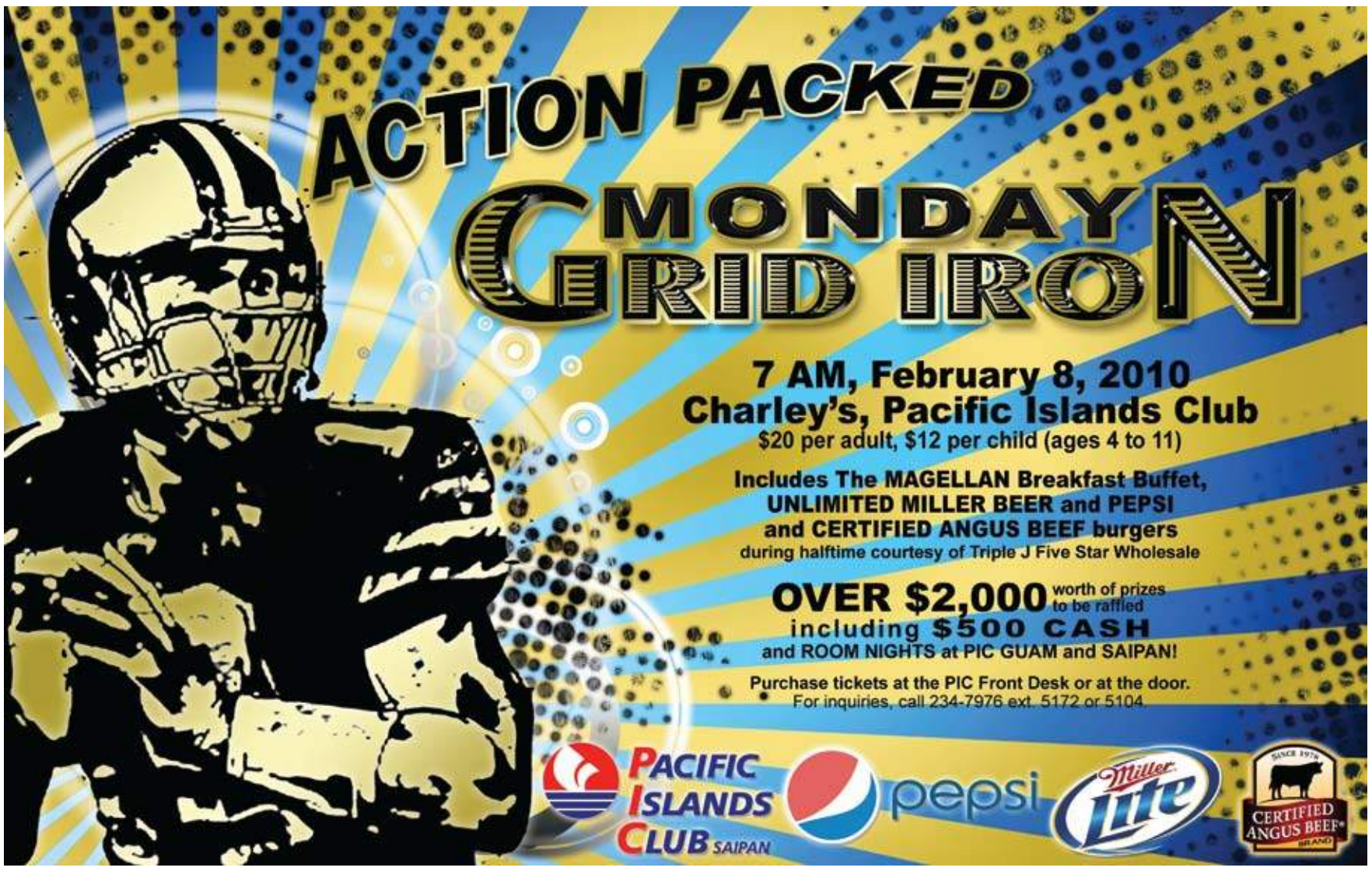
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Sasamoto is CPA deputy comptroller

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A new deputy comptroller who could soon become the agency's permanent comptroller is now onboard at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

CPA executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero confirmed yesterday that Derek Sasamoto was appointed deputy comptroller on Jan. 23.

Saipan Tribune learned that Sasamoto was previously hired for the same position in June 2009. After two months, he quit due to personal reasons.

Now that comptroller Frances Mafnas is set to retire on Feb. 13, Deleon Guerrero said the management has decided to rehire Sasamoto to ensure a smooth transition.

The executive director hinted that Sasamoto may be appointed to the comptrollership as soon as the position becomes vacant this month.

"He is now onboard as deputy comptroller and because we still have [Mafnas] onboard, he will remain on that post," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "Mr. Sasamoto has a very impressive and extensive educational background that would help the CPA. He has a master's degree and I am confident he will be an asset to the agency."

CPA will, however, still announce the comptrollership position after Mafnas leaves, Deleon Guerrero said. He invites interested individuals to turn in their applications.

'Termination not politically-motivated'

Deleon Guerrero also clarified that the recent termination of Tinian ports manager Ike Perez is not politically motivated.

He said the decision is an option available to the management, citing provisions in the employee's contract that he can be terminated with or without cause.

"I cannot discuss the particulars of the case because it's personnel matter," he told *Saipan Tribune* when asked for the reason behind Perez's termination.

Perez has already been provided a 30-day notice, which will expire on Feb. 21. The agency will then post a vacancy announcement.

Deleon Guerrero said the CPA management is also evaluating other positions in all divisions. "My goal here is to ensure that those persons in their positions can assist me in carrying out the objectives and goals set by the board," he added.

The need for a permanent comptroller at the agency was among the main requirements for the agency's bond indenture agreements.

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Senate, House counsels quit; 1 new hire

Senate legal counsel Ian Catlett and House legal counsel Tony Cabrera have separately resigned from their post this month, while the Legislative Bureau hired former prosecutor Matt Meyer as new House counsel last week.

With Cabrera and Catlett's departures, the 17th Legislature will be left with at three counsels, including the new hire: two at the House and one at the Senate.

Catlett said yesterday that his last day of work will be today although his resignation takes effect on Feb. 13. He said he still has some leave credits that he will use.

Catlett started working as Senate counsel effective Sept. 16, 2009, after returning to the CNMI.

Cabrera is also stepping down this month years after serving as Senate legal counsel. He was reassigned to the House last month to join legal counsel Joey P. San Nicolas. At the time, Legislative Bureau director Glenna SP Reyes said they're hiring a third counsel for the House. Meyer was brought on board, but now that Cabrera is leaving, the House again needs one more counsel.

Catlett's resignation leaves Antonette Villagomez as lone Senate legal counsel. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***

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Faisao named anew as DCCA secretary

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has re-nominated Melvin L.O. Faisao to again serve as secretary of the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs. Faisao's nomination now heads to the Senate for advice and consent.

Faisao is the current DCCA Secretary. However, due to his re-nomination, Faisao now reverts back to acting capacity until such time that he has been confirmed by the Senate.

Faisao is the latest Cabinet member to be named by the Fitial administration. Additional nominations are expected as the governor and lieutenant governor continue to review the remaining performance reports.

The Fitial administration also announced yesterday the reappointments of three directors and a deputy secretary: Sixto Igisomar as deputy secretary for the Department of Commerce; Rose Mondala as director for the Office on Aging; Nutrition Assistance Program director Eleanor S. Cruz retains her post and David R. Maratita will remain director of the Alcohol Beverage & Tobacco Control division at the Department of Commerce. ***(PR)***

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Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 5, 2001

CUC steps up drive vs drug use by employees

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation has sounded the alarm against involvement of its employees on use and abuse of illegal substance after a committee report disclosed some workers tested positive for drugs. Based on the Fiscal Year 2000 report submitted by the CUC Board's Personnel Committee to Chair Jesus T. Guerrero, seven utility employees were tested positive for drugs last year, while six others have already resigned. The seven utility employees are presently undergoing rehabilitation to flush out drug residue from their system, the report pointed out.

'Cut telecommunications monopoly'

In hopes to open more business opportunities, officials of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation are contemplating on providing an alternate bill that will deter monopoly on telecommunication services. CUC Board Telecommunications Committee Chair Frank T. Flores Jr. raised the need for a law that will offer more long distance telephone services, force competition and will correct the present telecommunication management. He said the proposal would even boost the economy of Northern Marianas and will provide more telephone companies, adding that this would result to the services becoming user-friendly.

Feb. 5, 2002

Customs director issue festers

It's been eight days since Gov. Juan N. Babauta appointed Frank Taitano to head the CNMI Division of Customs but he has remained mum whether to withdraw or go ahead with the appointment. At the same time, current Customs Director Joe Mafnas said that, after a visit on January 29, Taitano has not visited the division office since and business has resumed its usual course at the agency. Office of Personnel Management Director Norbert Sablan said he has also not received any communication from the Governor about the matter, nor does he know about Babauta's intentions.

MVA urged to promoted NMI to China

Saipan businessmen yesterday urged the Marianas Visitors Authority to aggressively promote the Northern Marianas to China, in hopes to revive the CNMI's ailing tourism industry. Century Travel's Dave Sablan said the current economic situation in Japan may affect the local tourism industry in the next two years. Sablan said the local economy will continue to rally slower, adding that an improvement may transpire in 2004. "It is another two years of stagnant economy for the CNMI." He urged tourism officials to explore other markets - Hong Kong, Guangzhou and Beijing - that may salvage the Commonwealth's struggling travel sector.

Feb. 5, 2003

CIP money eyed to help govt operations

Vice Speaker Manuel A. Tenorio is lobbying for the passage of a House Joint Resolution that seeks to convince the U.S. Congress to give the CNMI government more flexibility in the use of some $10 million federal constructions grants earmarked for Fiscal Year 2003. The move, based on a recommendation by Washington Rep. Pete A. Tenorio, seeks to reprogram the Capital Improvement Projects money for disaster assistance mitigation grants and for local government operations. "We need the money for a lot of things.

More issues float in CUC-AGP row

Authorities said that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has opted to withhold the remaining payment to an offshore private company-Aluminates Group Philippines-partly because the service performed was allegedly done by another consultant. Officials said the consultancy work claimed by the AGP actually involved another group headed by a certain Peter Aston who is from Australia. Aston, according to a source who requested anonymity, performed the necessary engineering and technical work, which the AGP claimed to have accomplished.

Feb. 5, 2004

Senate, DPH meets over proposed budget

Senate members asked to be briefed yesterday on the list of the Department of Public Health's pending projects amid the $43.37-million budget that the agency is proposing for fiscal year 2004. The meeting, held at the Senate chamber and exclusive to DPH officials, Senate members and their staff, reportedly tackled the department's federal grant application to build a primary healthcare facility in Kagman, among others.

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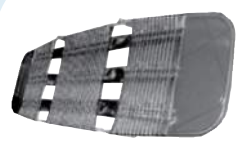

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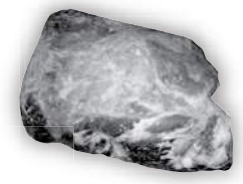

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EDITORIAL

Repeal 'don't ask, don't tell' now

"Don't ask, don't tell" is not only patently unfair, it's also self-defeating. Since the policy was put into effect in 1993, U.S. military forces have discharged some 13,500 gay men and lesbians.

Among those expelled because of their sexual orientation were many much-needed Arabic translators.

The military bans homosexuals from serving. But under "don't ask, don't tell," gay men and women are allowed to serve as long as they keep their sexual orientation secret. Superiors are prohibited from investigating soldiers' sexual orientation as long as they obey the rules. However, one cruel aspect of this policy is that it allows third parties, such as jilted lovers, to out someone to military superiors.

President Obama put getting rid of this discriminatory policy high on his agenda in his State of the Union address. It's a welcome call. But "don't ask, don't tell" can only be repealed by Congress, where it is still controversial. Wisely, the president sent Defense Secretary Robert Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the joint chiefs of staff, to the Senate Armed Services Committee Tuesday to unveil the Pentagon's proposed plan for ending the policy.

Congress should heed our military experts and repeal "don't ask, don't tell" this year. Even if it does act, the Pentagon will move gradually. Secretary Gates is assembling a team of advisers to start reviewing steps needed to fully integrate openly gay troops. Their review will take all of 2010, Gates said. Give this change some historical context: It took about five years to completely integrate the military after President Harry Truman ordered a halt to racial segregation in the armed forces in 1949.

This is more than a matter of government discrimination. It's also a matter of practicality.

Between two wars and other U.S. military obligations around the world, including the ongoing relief effort in Haiti, America's armed forces are stretched perilously thin.

The Pentagon needs more than a few good men and women, and it can't afford to exclude any able-bodied individual because of something as unfair as sexual orientation.

It must really gall well-qualified, educated gay men and women to know the Army has lowered its recruitment standards to allow high school dropouts and felons convicted of minor crimes to sign up while they are deemed unwelcome.

No less of a military man than Admiral Mullen was blunt about gays serving. "Speaking for myself and myself only, it is my personal and professional belief that allowing homosexuals to serve openly would be the right thing to do," he told the senators. "I have served with homosexuals since 1968. Everybody in the military has."

The admiral is not alone in his sentiments. A 2006 Zogby poll of 545 Iraq and Afghanistan veterans found that three-quarters of them had no problem serving with gay soldiers.

They know that, when it comes to who's next to you in that firefight, sexual orientation is the last thing anybody cares about. ***(Miami Herald)***

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How much is 'some'?

By ED STEPHENS JR.
Special to the Tribune

Ed is a pilot, economist, and writer. He holds a degree in economics from UCLA and is a former U.S. naval officer. His column runs every Friday. Visit Ed at TropicalEd.com and SaipanBlog.com.

Several of the Commonwealth's best business minds have been focusing on the Chinese tourism market, which is hardly news to you. Ten years ago, China was still sort of an underrated player on the world's economic stage, but these days, just about everyone with an international outlook has started contemplating the notion of speaking, or not speaking, or trying to speak, Mandarin Chinese. The two or three columns I did on the subject last year, which related my tribulations in the gig, received a lot more reader e-mail than the average column.

So it's a hot topic in the Commonwealth, and among those with ties to the Commonwealth.

Since I'm at roughly the one-year point in my part-time mission to learn to write and speak some Mandarin, I was planning on offering a progress report (and a mighty unimpressive one at that).

But, having heard a lot of recent discussions about the "learning Chinese" gig, I've realized this: Nobody seems to agree on what "learning" Chinese really means.

If it was easy to learn, then we wouldn't have to get philosophical about it. But it's not easy. I'd suggest pondering just what you want to "learn" on this note before getting all wound up in it.

Some guys that seem to be credible have opined that Mandarin is so difficult that it's simply not a good idea for most people (the context is Western adults; for example, an executive wanting to do business in China) to try to learn it, since it would take years of hard study. They mean truly learning the language: reading a newspaper in it, speaking at an executive level, stuff like that. I suspect their pessimism is right, or at least justified, in many cases. But it doesn't really apply to my case, since because my goals are far lower than this.

I'll never sound even remotely presentable in Mandarin. The best I can hope for is "Stupid foreigner, heavily-accented, yet occasionally understandable when struggling with obvious effort to express very simple things."

That's a very weird thing for an American to admit. The trendy set, by contrast, isn't worth their organic-double-soy-lattes if they don't self-profess precocious expertise in a dozen exotic tongues. Me, I barely even passed English, so I can make no claims to precociousness.

Anyway, like anything else these days, you have to consider the source when you consider the claims.

As for my decidedly non-trendy self, the source of my goal was this: I was trying to take a bus to Dongguan and I got on the wrong bus, and I could have been on Mars for all that came of it, because I got mighty lost. This, and other events, inspired me to try to learn enough Mandarin so that, if I find a really helpful person who has a lot of patience, I can maybe get on the right bus, or find a restaurant, or order a Coke, or ask for Mr. So-and-So once I arrive at his office, or, well, you get the point.

So far, so coherent. But for some reason, a figure I heard a long time ago was lodged in my head; it said that the average American uses just 800 words for typical speaking. Is that figure accurate? No idea. But such became my Mandarin goal. I know that a mere vocabulary count is not a true measure of proficiency. But I needed a metric of some sort. As any pilot knows, even an inaccurate compass will enable you to hold a heading. The alternative is to drift around in circles.

It wasn't a bad goal, I guess, but I haven't reached it yet. My progress trajectory after the one-semester class was not maintained when I went self-powered. However, my other goal was to remain engaged in studying it, and at least I've managed to do that.

I think that any practical goal in language can have value. For example, even 10 words of Japanese served me well when I flew helicopter air tours; "Thank you," "please wait," "you're welcome," and stuff like that was at least doable, and usable. A low, reachable goal is more useful than a lofty, foggy one.

In summary, "learning" a language is a loaded term, since there is a mighty wide range between having a little familiarity with something and being an expert at it. Maybe it's a shortcoming in English; instead of saying we are learning Mandarin, maybe we should say we are learning *some* Mandarin. At least in that case, we'd have to ponder just how much "some" really is.

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New hope for diabetics

BETTER LIVING

By DAVID M. KHORRAM, M.D.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

David Khorram is a board-certified ophthalmologist and the Director of the Center for Advanced Diabetic Eye Care at Marianas Eye Institute. He is listed in "Guide to America's Top Ophthalmologists." He is the editor of TheRetinaBlog.com, an online journal used by eye specialists around the world to stay current with the latest advances. He may be reached at 670-235-9090 or through www.MarianasEye.com.

It's an exciting time in the field of medicine. Sure, there are a lot of uncertainties regarding the administration of medicine and the current healthcare reform machinations. But the science of medicine continues to be marked by amazing developments.

I just returned from a conference dedicated to the field of retinal disease. The retina is the inside layer of the eye that turns light into an electrical signal and sends it to the brain (kind of like the film inside a camera). Much of the conference centered on new ways to use new drugs to treat diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration. These drugs, which stop the growth of bad blood vessels and decrease swelling and inflammation, barely existed five years ago. But in a short span of time, they have revolutionized the way we treat diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration, as well as a host of other retinal vascular and inflammatory diseases. These drugs allow us to more confidently discuss recovery of vision with our patients who have these devastating diseases. They belong to a class of drugs called VEGF inhibitors. Maybe you've heard their names: Avastin, Lucentis and Macugen.

When I first started using these medicines to treat my patients with diabetic eye disease, I was amazed at how well they worked. Over the past few years we've been refining our approach, based on clinical research. What we are finding is that the new drugs work much faster than conventional treatments such as laser. But the conventional treatments have a much longer lasting effect. Rather than abandon one treatment for the other, many of us who specialize in treating retinal disease are advocating something that has been common in other fields of medicine, like cancer therapy or arthritis therapy. We are advocating combination therapy. We are beginning to learn that diabetic eye disease, on a molecular level, is very complex, and we see that a combination of new drugs and conventional laser treatment may work better to maintain, or even restore vision, than either therapy by itself.

The research results are emerging rapidly. New clinical research is published every month (if you're interested in the scientific details, visit TheRetinaBlog.com). As new data becomes available, we change our treatment approaches to match the advances that are taking place. It's an exciting time in medicine and there is a new sense of hope for you if you have diabetic eye disease or other retinal problems.

Tribute to a Micronesian giant

By JOHN S. DELROSSARIO JR.
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The late FSM Supreme Court Chief Justice Andon Amaraich was among my very few heroes in the Congress of Micronesia or Micronesian region for that matter. Highly intelligent and soft-spoken, he commanded the respect of his colleagues for his serious approach to his work as a policymaker. He was an icon of substance, dignity and integrity. It was an honor to have made his acquaintance.

Amaraich headed the Law of the Sea Committee for many years, researching and formulating what now is the 200-mile exclusive economic zone of the Federated States of Micronesia. He was the one who suggested to me that this issue be included in the NMI-US political status negotiations. But it was quietly shoved aside for fear that it may delay receiving our blue books from U.S. Immigration. Today, we're backpedaling in an effort to reclaim what was once ours.

Amaraich was also respected for his no-nonsense approach to substantive queries he'd asked of nominees or issues on legislation before the Senate chamber. As blunt and sharp as he was, there was no room for political niceties either. He called a spade a spade. I wish I had followed him to Pohnpei just to work for his office before returning home. I had many quiet moments with him in the Senate chamber on Capital Hill.

While his colleagues went to receptions to booze it up with burned meat and sashimi, he would sit alone in a large chamber reviewing his materials up until midnight for a hearing or the next day's session. He came to sessions fully prepared. In other words, he knew his materials thoroughly before deliberations began.

Of his many accomplishments, I venture to assert that his biggest one was the establishment of the 200-mile EEZ for the FSM. He stayed focused on this matter until it was approved and written as a permanent provision of the Compact of Free Association. He was an icon who never lost sight of his mission on this very complex issue. He sailed through it all fully collected and left behind a lasting legacy for all his people.

For a man of serious demeanor, Andon had a sense of humor too and shares it with staff and colleagues at the then Congress of Micronesia. He was an icon of dignity and integrity to emulate and touched the lives of the multitude through his work product. He's one of my very few heroes that include the late Amata Kabua, Lazarus Salii, Tosiwo Nakayama, Luke Tman, former Marianas District Legislature president Vicente N. Santos and former Speaker Oscar C. Rasa.

How fortunate for this scribe to have worked alongside revered intellectual giants from throughout Micronesia. Working with bright minds was an experience I relish for life. Let us remember the late Amaraich in our thoughts and prayers throughout the week. Ghilisow and si Yuus Maase`!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A golden age of prosperity

In my short six months on Saipan my wife and I made many friends and acquaintances with hardworking and sincere people from not only the CNMI but also from mainland America and our Asian neighbors. I regret that due to personal and financial reasons, we had to leave so soon…and just when the hardworking team at the Zoning Office was making so many important steps in the right direction. Although planning and zoning can't solve the immediate threats facing the CNMI, it is a the key to the long-term development, sustainable growth, and betterment of island life and must be defended and supported enthusiastically by the people and government of the CNMI.

I hope I started a real dialog among the powers that be, and I make myself available as a sounding board to facilitate the conversation in the months and years to come. I would like to offer the good people of the Zoning board and the government my continued assistance in planning, zoning code development, and energy solutions in whatever way I can.

The CNMI is facing serious economic and energy challenges, but I think they are very solvable. I can't help but think that the Commonwealth should extend both hands and embrace its chosen partnership with America, and do so with all the islands' strategic advantages. What if Washington was presented with a real plan, a forward thinking road map to encourage and host the best America offers in technology, education, and sustainable development? A plan highlighting the rich and unique Chamorro and Carolinian cultures, creating a powerful alliance with America that positions Saipan as THE prosperous gateway to the Asian economic superpowers blossoming just off its shores?

I feel past leaders of the CNMI may have underestimated the islands' value and potential for global influence. This may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the hardworking people of the CNMI. The new leaders of the 17th Legislature have an extraordinary chance to pull back from the brink and establish a solid lead in the new emerging East meets West economic paradigm. As China takes center stage in the global economy, America needs the CNMI more than ever. The current economic, political, and energy crisis has created a "perfect storm," and the CNMI is America's lifeboat in the Pacific. The path is clear and bright for those who understand what is really happening.

In the words of Jimmy Buffet, "Changes in Latitudes, Changes in Attitudes." Well, this string of Pacific island pearls and its people have been blessed with the latitude, and I for one believe that with a simple change of attitude, the CNMI could enter a golden age of prosperity.

Best wishes to everyone.

Victor Barrett
Former Zoning administrator
via e-mail

Obama, Froilan, Benavente, and our economy

Although I have retired from PSS and no longer will be writing about PSS, the recent turn of events with our government has compelled me to share with the public my opinion of what really needs to be done. It was really not a surprise to see the speaker promoting a casino *again*! With a casino on Tinian that is almost within swimming distance, it truly defies common sense for people on Saipan to be competing with their own family and fellow citizens on Tinian, not to mention Rota, which is also trying to build a casino. We have already gone down this road once with the Speaker, which revealed that an *overwhelming* majority of people are *not* in favor of a casino on Saipan, including the church, which most locals attend.

The speaker is indeed a fierce political fighter but it is my opinion that he has been fighting the wrong battles for almost a decade, which is why he wasn't re-elected governor for fighting with the feds! I truly believe he cares about the CNMI but maybe more about himself and the enrichment that might come his way with a casino because surely the owners will be indebted to him if it happens.

The speaker's claim that the President's visit is a waste of taxpayers' money is totally wrong. First of all, it will be the money of taxpayers on the mainland and not the CNMI, so why is he so concerned about their money when the CNMI has taken over $2 billion of the mainland taxpayers' money? Secondly, there hasn't been a U.S. President in the CNMI since the signing of the Covenant and I guess the speaker doesn't understand the many intangible benefits of a presidential visit and I can't educate him with this single letter. But I'm sure there are many people within our society who do realize the magnitude of a visit from the U.S. President. We would have to be real idiots to not want to talk with the President, when even the enemies of the U.S. want to talk with him!

Rep. Diego Benavente is on the right course by seeking an audience with the President in the CNMI and he also needs help to make sure the speaker's proposed legislation will not pass, to put an end to this madness for a casino on Saipan. The only thing is we need to have something very constructive and conducive for the U.S. and the CNMI to propose. I'm sure the President knows we need help and we need to present a real plan that will help both the CNMI and the United States. We need to show that we are trying to help America and ourselves and are not just relying on federal money. Although the Republican candidates for the executive office lost, there was a vital proposal for a treaty with Japan and Korea that I proposed to the GOP, which would allow for these foreign governments to invest in the CNMI. More recently, President Obama was in Japan where he made it very clear that he wanted some kind of economic treaty with Japan and other Southeast Asian countries. I shouldn't have to tell the average reader about the many economic factors that will be favorable to us in this relationship. We may actually be in a position to have so many investors that we will have to turn away some, which is the position we need to be in and not begging for investors on junkets. We only need to follow the President's lead on this issue to be winners if we can stop playing politics and start doing the work.

I'm now challenging our government and our U.S. Delegate to come up with a plan that is better than the treaty I proposed. If you can't, then you *must* pursue this endeavor with full speed ahead so we can find real prosperity for the CNMI. I'm very confident a treaty is a much better solution to our economic woes, as opposed to the casino being proposed by the speaker. I may be an outsider but, sooner or later, majority of people are going to realize that it doesn't matter where the solutions come from as long as they work! You decide for yourself if you want to take the advise of real economists or a speaker who has a one track mind.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Northeast winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy and breezy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼74°	▲85° ▼75°	▲85° ▼74°	▲84° ▼75°	▲85° ▼76°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Sunny	▲83	▼74
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲90	▼77
Yap	Partly Sunny	▲86	▼76
Chuuk	Mostly Cloudy	▲90	▼81
Pohnpei	Cloudy	▲85	▼74
Kosrae	Partly Sunny	▲87	▼73
Majuro	Cloudy	▲84	▼75

Around The Globe

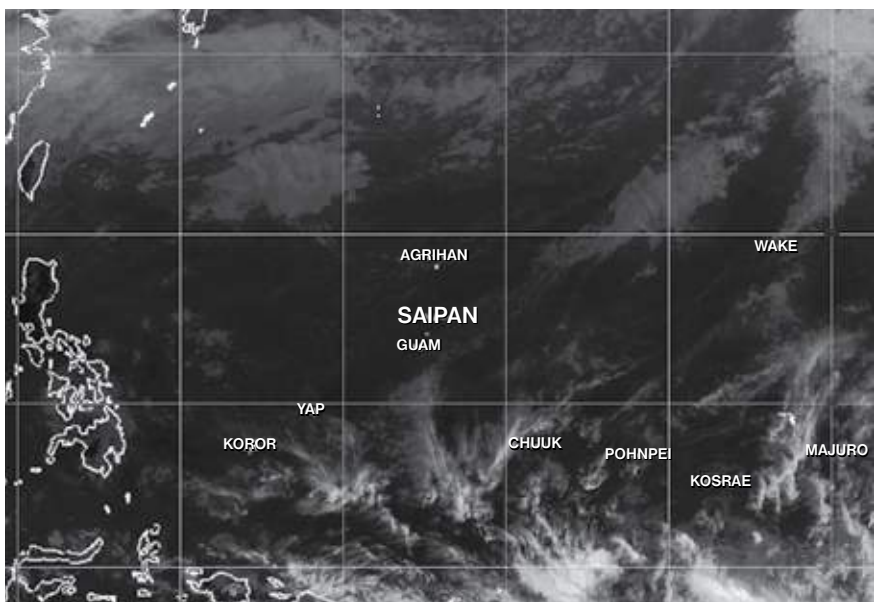
Auckland	Cloudy	▲71	▼60
Beijing	Cold	▲22	▼17
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲72	▼67
Honolulu	Showers	▲77	▼67
London	Mostly Cloudy	▲46	▼37
Los Angeles	Rain	▲62	▼50
Manila	Sunny	▲90	▼73
Melbourne	Showers	▲68	▼53
Miami	Partly Sunny	▲81	▼66
New York	Mostly Cloudy	▲38	▼26
Osaka	Cloudy	▲40	▼29
Paris	Showers	▲45	▼38
Pusan	Sunny	▲45	▼24
Rome	Rain	▲56	▼41
Salem	Showers	▲55	▼37
San Francisco	Showers	▲59	▼49
Seoul	Sunny	▲24	▼13
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲44	▼26
Washington, DC	Snow	▲37	▼28

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:14 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
5:56 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.7 Feet
11:51 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
7:14 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak cold front stretches from 21N137E to 19N145E to 21N150E to 25N158E then farther northeast. Scattered to broken clouds and patchy rain are found along and up to 300 miles northwest of the front. The remains of an old shear line northeast of the Marianas extends from 15N151E to 23N160E. Scattered to broken clouds and patchy rain are located within 180 miles north of the boundary. A weak shear line stretches from 16N165E to 12N170E to exit the discussion area at 12N180. Patchy rain can be found along and up to 180 miles north of the boundary.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:45 AM	6:17 PM
Saturday	6:45 AM	6:17 PM
Sunday	6:45 AM	6:18 PM
Monday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM
Tuesday	6:44 AM	6:18 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today		10:58 AM
Saturday	12:09 AM	11:44 AM
Sunday	1:05 AM	12:33 PM
Monday	2:00 AM	1:24 PM
Tuesday	2:53 AM	2:16 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JANUARY 28, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

C09597	11:30am	12:05pm	1, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	12:40pm	1:10pm	1, 7

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09597	11:30am	1:10pm	1, 7 via ROP
C09601	12:20pm	1:10pm	4, 5
C09603	3:15pm	4:05pm	Daily
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:20pm	10:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)

NW287	6:00am	7:30pm	Daily via NRT
NW638	8:00am	10:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

NW287	6:00am	8:40am	Daily
NW297	4:45pm	7:30pm	Daily
NW289	5:00pm	7:45pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via Osaka
		Arrive OSA 6:40am, leave OSA 9:30am	
OZ606	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

CA8282	3:15am	7:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ608/705	3:20am	1:30am+1	1, 4, 5, 7 via PUS
C09603/893	3:15pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-PALAU
OZ606/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7 via ICN
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:20pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ606/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

C09598	3:10am	3:45am	5, 6
C09312	1:20pm	1:55pm	6

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	2:00am	2:30am	5, 6
C09312	12:10pm	12:40pm	6

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:00am	2:50am	1, 2, 3, 4, 7
C09598	2:00am	3:45am	5, 6 via ROP
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C09312	12:10pm	1:55pm	6 via ROP
C09602	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	4:50pm	5:40pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN

NW288	12:05pm	1:35am+1	Daily via NRT effective Jan 25
NW277	8:30pm	1:00am+1	3, 6
NW639	9:00pm	1:35am+1	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

NW290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily
NW298	10:05am	2:50pm	Daily
NW288	9:00pm	1:35am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:10am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via Osaka
		Arrive OSA 8:50pm, leave OSA 9:50pm	
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

CA8281	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ716/605	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN
OZ706/607	3:35am	2:10am+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via PUS
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via PALAU-GUM
C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM
OZ704/605	11:55pm	2:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via ICN

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4 ,6 ,7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CA: China Airlines; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota			
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily
Guam-Rota			
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan			
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota			
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily
Rota-Guam			
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily

11 students nominated to Service Academies

WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Rep. Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) has submitted his nominations to the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy and the U.S. Naval Academy for the upcoming school year. Eleven Northern Marianas students were nominated, a record number.

"It is great that we had so many students who met the high standards to qualify for nomination this year," said Sablan. "Because this is also the year that we have twice as many positions open at the service academies for Northern Mariana Islands students."

Sablan introduced legislation to increase the number of slots at the academies last February, a few weeks after being sworn into office. He was able to have his proposal added to the annual Defense Authorization Act, which the President signed into law on October 28, 2009, just in time for this year's nomination process.

"We have to increase educational opportunity for our young people today, if we want to have a prosperous Commonwealth in the future," Sablan said. "Increasing the openings for our Northern Marianas students at West Point, Annapolis, and Colorado Springs does just that. And it gives our youth the chance to serve their country in positions of leadership."

Students at the service academies obtain their college education for free and are commissioned as officers in their respective branch of the military after graduation.

The 11 congressional nominees from the Northern Mariana Islands are:

■ **Matthew Anthony T. Aquino**: The son of Daniel Aquino Jr. and Joann Aquino, Matthew is currently attending Mount Carmel High School and will graduate this June. He was nominated to the Air Force Academy, the Military Academy and the Naval Academy.

■ **Steven Paul Sonio Centino**: The son of Marlene Centino, Steven is a senior at Saipan Southern High School. He was nominated to the Air Force Academy and the Military Academy.

■ **Diana Choi**: The daughter of Choi Young Sup and Bak Soon Hee, Diana is a senior at Marianas High School. She was nominated to the Air Force Academy and the Military Academy.

■ **Grace Chung**: The daughter of Hyun Joon Chung and Jung Me Park, Grace is currently a senior at the Northern Marianas Academy. She was nominated to the Air Force Academy.

■ **Raena Pangelinan Cing**: The daughter of Raynaldo Mendiola Cing and Priscilla Pangelinan Cing, Raena attends Tinian High School and will graduate this summer. She was nominated to the Air Force Academy, the Military Academy and the Naval Academy.

■ **Federico Quintero Fernandez**: The son of Fidel S. Fernandez and Josephine Q. Fernandez, Federico is a senior at Marianas Baptist Academy. He was nominated to the Naval Academy.

■ **Denn M. Manglona**: The son of Sen. Paul Manglona and Lydia Manglona, Denn will graduate from Rota High School this June. He was nominated to the Military Academy.

■ **Marvin Olopai Rabauliman**: The son of Jose and Mercedes Rabauliman, Marvin graduated from Marianas High School last year. He has been nominated to the Air Force Academy.

■ **John Mendiola Ramos**: The son of Luise Mendiola Ramos, John is a senior at Tinian High School. He was nominated to the Military Academy and the Naval Academy.

■ **Calvin Yang**: The son of Youn Geun Yang and Sung Sook, Calvin is a senior at Mount Carmel High School. He was nominated to the Merchant Marine Academy and also recommended to the Coast Guard Academy.

■ **John Yoon**: The son of Tae Hyung Yoon and Kyung A. Hang, John is a senior at Marianas Baptist Academy and is expected to graduate this summer. He was nominated to the Air Force Academy, the Military Academy and the Naval Academy.

Congressional nomination is not the final step in acceptance to the one of the service academies. Now that they are nominated by their congressman, each applicant will be reviewed by the admission boards at the academies. The boards select the best candidates from among the 4,000 or so normally nominated. Of those, 1,500 will be offered admission.

Before Sablan's legislation passed, the Northern Marianas could have only one student at each academy at a time. Now there can be two.

Admission is granted to students who meet the service academies' high standards of academic achievement, leadership potential, physical conditioning, and moral character.

"I am confident that these nominees will succeed if granted appointment and will represent the Northern Marianas well as cadets or midshipmen in school and as officers in the armed services after graduation," said Sablan. "I wish them all the best of luck in obtaining admission, completing their studies, and serving their country." ***(PR)***

GUANGDONG HARDWARE

GUANGDONG MILEI? GUANGDONG BA ITO?

GOOD NEWS TO ALL TINIAN/ROTA CUSTOMERS:
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2X6X12 - $6.70	2X6X16 - $13.00
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T09-031	2009	SCION Xb	AUTO	23199	WHITE	ACG-776	16,499	
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GM VAN								
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Prior Service Trust Fund looks for 145 individuals

The Prior Service Trust Fund is trying to contact 145 individuals to determine if they are currently eligible or will become eligible for Prior Service benefits.

"We would appreciate it very much if anyone knows the whereabouts of any of these individuals to please call [our office.]… Some of these individuals have contacted Prior Service previously. However, we would like to know if there has been a change of status in the last two years, i.e., stopped working, deceased without eligible beneficiaries, etc.," said Jerold F. Facey, Prior Service Trust Fund adviser.

Many of these cases have been pending for two years as well, he added.

Interested individuals may call (670) 322-9753 between 8am and 12pm and 1pm and 4:30pm, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

"To ensure fairness, we will allow 90 days from the date of this announcement to finalize these pending and unknown situations," Facey said. ***(PR)***

Ada, Maria C.
Agulto, Herminia P.
Arriola, Jose F
Arriola, Theresita
Ayem, (Apong) Sabino M.
Ayuyo, Andres A.
Babauta, Vicente M
Barcinas, Juan S.
Borja, Bernabe
Borja, Fernando Castro
Borja, Ramon Santos
Cabrera, Gregoria C
Cabrera, Jesus C.
Cabrera, Juan SN
Cabrera, Lorenzo DLG
Cabrera, Luis Mendiola
Cabrera, Nicolas Taisacan
Cabrera, Sabino R.
Cabrera, Sebastian Mendiola
Calixterio, Margarita
Calvo, Julian S.
Camacho, Alejandro S.
Camacho Antonio S.
Camacho, Augustine B.
Camacho, Bernardino Duenas
Camacho, Carlos S.
Camacho, Dolores Benavente
Camacho, Elphidia P.
Camacho, Fermina Mendiola
Camacho, Jose Roberto
Camacho, Thomas S.
Castro, Daniel Pangelinan
Castro, Ignacio Lizama
Castro, Jesus C.
Castro, Jesus L.
Castro, Manuel M.
Castro, Ramon
Castro, Victoria Babauta
Cepeda, Felix A.
Cepeda, Joaquin C.
Chong, Thomasa L.C
Cruz, Ignacio Pangelinan
Cruz, Jesus
Cruz, Josefa C.
Cruz, Juana A.
Dela Cruz, Ignacio
Dela Cruz, Jesus R.
Dela Cruz, Jose Masga
Dela Cruz, Jose Reyes
Dela Cruz, Thomas C.
Deleon Guerrero, Dolores T.
Deleon Guerrero, Manuela B.
Delos Reyes, Jesus Borja
Delos Santos, Ronaldo M
Demapan, Pedro Borja
Diaz, Antonio Camacho
Diaz, Rosa
Esteves, Jose I.
Fejeran, Moses T.
Fitial, Felix R.
Guerrero, Jose C.
Guerrero, Paulino
Hoashi, Vicente
Hocog, Maria A.
Iginoef, Juan
Igitol, Pedro
Iglecias, Anselmo M.
Itaman, Jose E
Kaipat, Silvestre R.
Kapileo, Simeon I.
Kileleman, Prepedigna P.
Lieto, Ramon
Lifoifoi, Jose R.
Lisua, Raphael
Lizama, Francisco C.
Lizama, Jesus B.
Manglona, Jose G.
Manglona, Vicente M.
Maratita, Isaias S.
Masga, Bienvenido M.
Masga, Mateo
Matagolai, Vicente S.
Muna, Isidro A.
Muna, Maria P.
Muna, Moises
Nekai, Thimateo
Ngirbabul, Rosario E.
Olopai, Maximo L.
Omang, Dembei (Umang)
Palacios, Isabel C.
Palacios, Jose M.
Pangelinan, Herminia
Pangelinan, Joseph K.
Pangelinan, Juan N.
Quitugua, Fermin M.
Rechucher, Eusebio
Reyes, Alfonso
Reyes, Francisco T.
Reyes, Raphael M.
Reyes, Victor Tudela
Rosario, Magdalena Sablan
Sablan, Francisco G.
Sablan, Gregorio I.
Sablan, Gregorio S.
Sablan, Herman S.
Sablan, Jesus D.
Sablan, Joaquin LG
Sablan, Joaquin T.
Sablan, Juan T.
Sablan, Nicolas T.
Sablan, Pedro
Sablan, Pedro O.
Sablan, Richardo S.
Sablan, Rita LG
Sablan, Vicente S.
Salas, Carlos Concepcion
Salas, Jesus Taitano
San Nicolas, Guellermina H
Sanchez, Jose Aguon
Santos, Gonzalo Quitugua
Santos, Manuel St. Maria
Santos, Ronaldo M.
Santos, Vicente Naputi
Santos, Vicente Torres
Sasakura, Daniel D.
Sasamoto, Jose
Somorang, Ambrocio
Taisacan, Leon Inos
Takai, Antonio D.
Tebuteb, Dionicio W.
Tenorio, Eugenio V
Tenorio, Rita
Teregeyo, Vicente M.
Torres, Francisca A.
Toves, Leonardo
Toves, Luis
Toves, Rita S.
Towai, Rioky
Tsuchiyama, Maria S.
Villagomez, Felix
Villagomez, Lucia A.
Villagomez, Manuel S.
Villagomez, Raphael G.
Villagomez, Thomas S.
Wesley, Margarita C.

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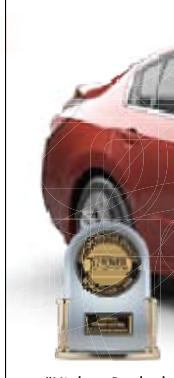

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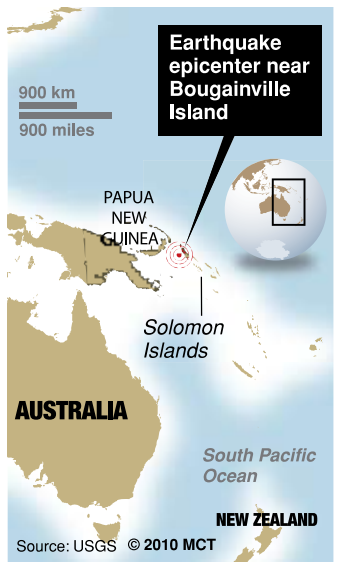

Strong earthquake strikes near Papua New Guinea

SYDNEY (AP)—A strong earthquake has struck in the ocean near Papua New Guinea, but there have been no immediate reports of injury or damage and no tsunami warnings have been issued.

The U.S. Geological Survey says the 6.5 magnitude quake struck on Tuesday 78 miles (126 kilometers) west of the island province of Bougainville. It was 46 miles (74 kilometers) below the surface.

The Pacific Tsunami Warning Center did not issue an alert.

The archipelago nation is part of the Pacific Ocean's "ring of fire," where earthquakes of this magnitude are fairly common and rarely cause serious damage.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Red flag up at Unai Dangkulo beach

The Division of Environment Quality has raised the red flag on the Unai Dangkulo beach on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of this site for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

DEQ analyzed water samples collected from Saipan's east and south recreational beaches this week and samples taken from this site were found to contain excessive concentrations of enterococci that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water. However, studies have shown that storm water runoff in tropical environment, which may not be directly associated with public health concerns.

For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Boy Scout, Cub Scout, volunteer membership drive

The CNMI Boy Scouts will be holding a membership drive on Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010, between 9am and 2pm. If you're a boy between the ages of 7 and 18, you are eligible to become a scout. The membership drive will be held north of the Sabalu Market (Civic Center) besides Beach Road.

The CNMI Boy Scouts are also looking for adult volunteers interested in helping the CNMI Scouting Program. If you cannot make it out to the drive and are interested in obtaining more information about the CNMI Scouting program, contact Calistro Reyes at 235-9708. ***(PR)***

United Workers Movement-NMI to hold pocket meetings

The United Workers Movement-NMI is going to hold pocket meetings every first and third Friday of every month until May 2010. The objective of the meetings is to meet the classified alien people in the CNMI. We are requesting that all alien workers and community members who support the plight of the nonresidents groups that are appealing for improved status to join, support and express their concern. It will be held in front of U.S. Department Homeland Security office at TSL Building, Garapan between 4pm and 7pm. Foreign nationals can express their comments on videotape that will be submitted to different federal agencies, including the U.S. Interior Department, to give them a clear understanding on the issues before they submit their recommendation to the U.S. Congress. Please join us with a unified voice for an improved immigration status for all workers. ***(PR)***

MHS calendar of activities

Marianas High School will be distributing report cards today, Feb. 5, 2010, to all students for their 2nd quarter grades. Parents and guardians are urged to ask their children for the report card.

On Monday, Feb. 8, 2010, all seniors of Marianas High School will be attending the Start Smart Seminar at the Saipan World Resort from 8am to 2:45pm. During this seminar, all seniors will be given information about college, financial aid, and succeeding after high school. If you *do not* want your child to attend, please sign the permission form that your child was given, stating you *do not* want them to participate.

If you have any questions, call the MHS Main Office at 664-3806. ***(PR)***

Puengin Inetnon today

Puengin Inetnon will be held today, Feb. 5, at the Kagman Community Center parking lot. Puengin Inetnon is Kagman's Friday Night Market, which begins at 4:30pm and ends at 10pm. This week's vendors feature Lynn's Barbecue, Fong's, Champs Shave Ice, U2 Collections, and The Library Bookmobile.

Puengin Inetnon is a family oriented event. Alcohol will be prohibited from the event. All are welcome. Come attend Puengin Inetnon for some family fun in Kagman. Interested vendors can call 256-7678 or e-mail kagmankomunidatassociation@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Language experts to speak in Marianas Agupa

Marianas Agupa, A Chamorro talk show program hosted by Glenn H. Manglona, will feature Dr. Liz Rechebei and Dr. Sandy Chung, who will discuss the Chamorro dictionary revision project this Saturday, Feb. 6, 2010, between 9:30am and 10:30am on Magic 100.3 FM. Simultaneous Internet streaming via www.magic100radio.com will be available. For more information, e-mail marianasagupa@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Free lecture on science-based home design

Saipan-based physics professor John Hait will be conducting a free lecture on "How to build a home with a continuously comfortable built-in temperature" today, Feb. 5, 2010, at the American Memorial Park. It will begin at 6pm. Hait's home design concept requires no air-conditioning, or heaters in cold areas!

For more information, go to www.Einstein-Code.info. Also, learn Advanced Science the easy way with online poetry. It's fun and easy. ***(PR)***

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February 08,2010
"EXPERIENCE & FEEL THE INTENSITY"
Watch the Game & Enjoy our Sumptuous BUFFET !!!
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Another exciting offer from the Grand!
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Star Sands unveils Everblue store in grand opening

Six months after taking over the building, the owners of Star Sands Plaza is holding a grand opening for the souvenir and gift shop today that incidentally coincides with the launch of the Everblue Factory Outlet.

Alex Youn, president of Star Sands owner AC Pacific, LLC, said the old La Fiesta Mall in San Roque used to have an Everblue store and the opening today marks the U.S. brand's return to Saipan.

To celebrate, Star Sands is slashing as much as 30 percent off on selected Everblue items as part of its Valentine's sale.

Youn said Everblue currently operates over 100 retail outlets in 19 U.S. states and territories, including California, Florida, Hawaii, New York, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

Star Sands Plaza will celebrate it grand opening today by giving customers free food and drinks.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Today also marks the launching of the Everblue Factory Outlet inside the Garapan souvenir store and gift shop.

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Everblue operates over 100 retail outlets in 19 U.S. states and territories, including California, Florida, Hawaii, New York, Puerto Rico, and Guam.

He said Everblue is affiliated with fashion retailers that operate over 100 stores in the mainland.

Youn said since Star Sands sources its Everblue items directly from the manufacturer, its prices are guaranteed lower than other fashion stores on island.

"We do not commission any middlemen and can therefore transfer our savings directly to the consumers," he said.

In addition, Star Sands takes delivery of new Everblue items every week, which guarantees that the outlet keeps up with the latest trends in fashion.

"Our customers know that they can shop any day of the year rather than lower their standards or wait for sales at other retailers," he said.

Grand opening

Aside from the launch of the Everblue Factory Outlet and Valentine's sale, Star Sands will also mark its grand opening today by offering free fingers foods and drinks to patrons.

Youn is inviting local customers and tourists alike to join Star Sands in celebrating its grand opening.

While Star Sands took over La Moda Isla in August 2009, he said it was only early this year that they were able to use the rest of the 12,000-square-foot store with the launch of the Everblue Factory Outlet.

Total island store

Youn said Star Sands always tries its best to give its patrons the total island experience.

Proof of this is the local dance and music entertainment the souvenir and gift shop holds at 7pm on the dot seven days a week.

Star Sands also has a farmer's cart situated on the north side of the building that sells fresh local produce to tourists. On the opposite end, there is an outdoor café for those who want to enjoy their espresso al fresco.

Inside Star Sands, Youn said customers could have their refreshments as well as surf the Internet at a snack bar.

The second floor of Star Sands also serves as its rooftop parking area with space for as many as 45 vehicles. Youn said it could be accessed through a ramp located at the backside of the building.

Youn is also proud to say that Star Sands own the trademark for the "I Love Saipan/Tinian/Rota" logo that not only adorns the store's signature shirts and gift items but could also be found on the building's façade.

He said the "I Love Saipan" logo on top of the Star Sands building has become so popular that tourists can be seen regularly posing for photographs in front of it.

Souvenirs are king

Youn said the opening of the Everblue Factory Outlet notwithstanding, Star Sands' bread and butter continues to be the sale of souvenirs.

"We are the largest souvenir store on Saipan. We have complete selections of souvenir gift items. Most of our souvenir products come directly from our suppliers and we do not go through any middleman," he said. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

everblue
FACTORY OUTLET

is back to Saipan!

VALENTINE SALE

10~30%

Feb.5~Feb14

GRAND OPENING

One Stop Shopping
for Fashion, Gift, Souvenir.

STAR SANDS PLAZA
FASHION • GIFT • SOUVENIR

OPEN 9:00AM~10:30PM TEL 233-3535 Garapan (North of DFS Galleria)
45 roof top parking space is available at back side of the building
All major credit cards accepted

February 8 WATCH THE BIG GAME AT

BUD LIGHT BUD BOWL MIAMI 2010

Hard Rock CAFE Doors Open at 8:30am

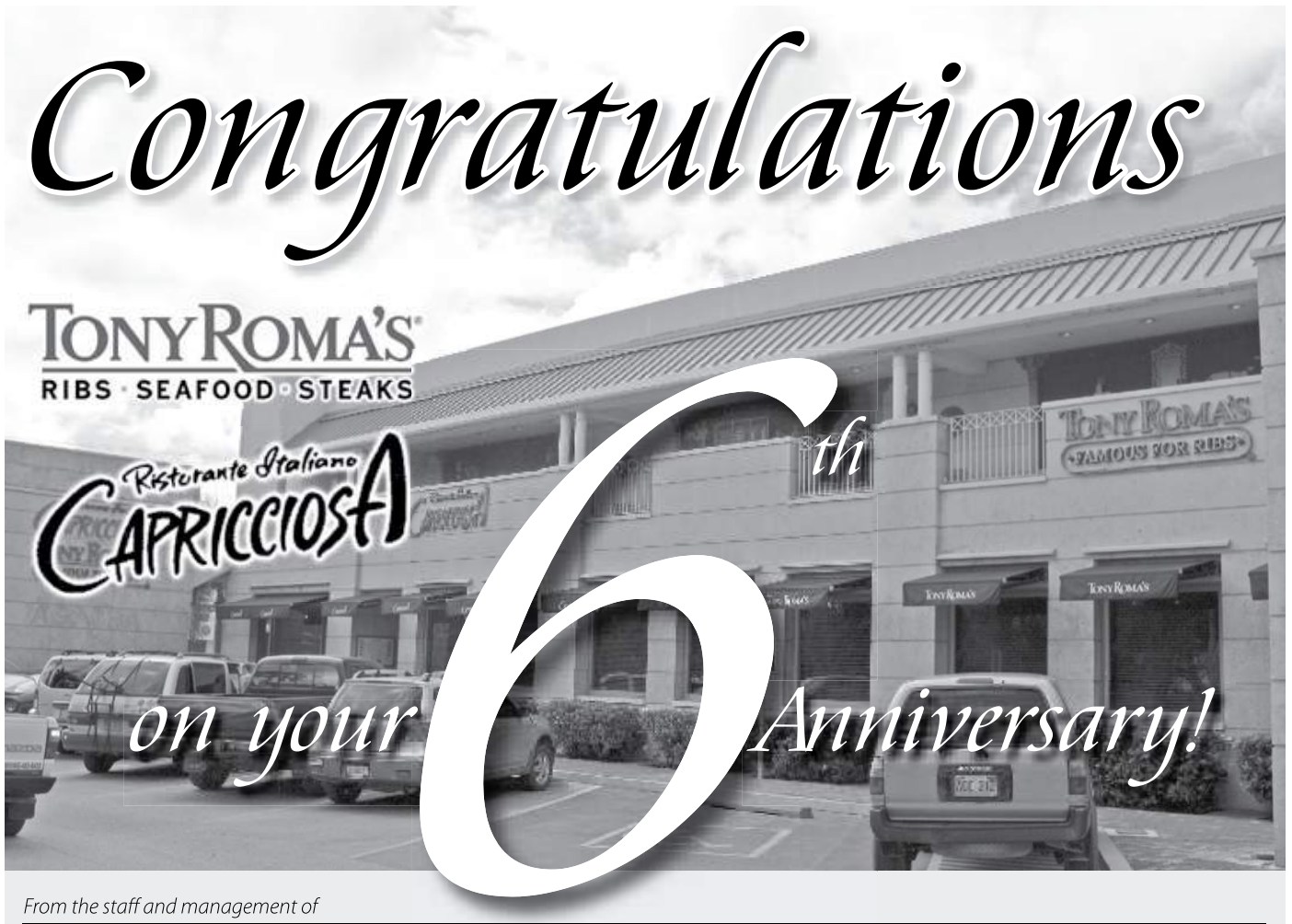
OLEAI BEACH BAR & GRILL Doors Open at 8:00am

Godfather's Bar Saipan Doors Open at 8:30am

FREE t-shirt for the first 50 people!
Bud Family on Special throughout the BIG GAME!
WIN Bud Bowl Gear!

Must be 21 yrs or older to participate.

IT&E Life in Motion



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS

Happy birthday to Michael Vincent Attao Concepcion who is celebrating his 22nd birthday today, Feb 5. Warm greetings come from your parents Aldebert Sr. and Celina; your siblings, U.S. Army 1st Lt. Aldebert Jr., Christopher and Kimberly; and the rest of your Chalan Piao family! Wishing you the best on your special day! Photo shows from left, brothers Christopher and Aldebert Jr.; sister Kimberly; and birthday celebrant Michael Vincent Attao Concepcion.

Belated happy 20th birthday to our slippery Army brat Christine L. Kaipat, who is currently in Iraq. "We miss and love and pray for your safe return. May God bless and keep you from harm. This Chris rocks! Go Sofang!" From Mom, Ryan, Roy, Roxanie and our families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Belated happy birthday to Joshua Mostales! May you have many more years to come! Greetings come from Naomi Reen, Ruben and Ms. Kate.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

"A special child with a special mission in life." Belated happy birthday, Nathan Rey Abe, who celebrated his special day on Feb. 2. Greetings come from Mommy Sitsit, Daddy Roger, church family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SPELLING BEE CHAMP

ChaCha Ocean View Middle School is extending its warmest congratulations to its Spelling Bee winner, Jackie Ogumoro, rightmost, and her alternate, Marcy Ermitanio, center. The two are joined here by, from left to right, Alisa Ann Pangelinan, COJHS Spelling Bee coordinator; Ruth Bigabal, COJHS vice principal; and Vince Dela Cruz, COJHS principal.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Man gets 23 days in prison for stealing cases of Spam

The Superior Court has imposed a 23-day prison term on one of two store employees accused of stealing 50 cases of Spam by making a hole on the wall that separates the store's warehouse and their housing in Tanapag.

Presiding Judge Robert Naraja sentenced Abe Sahagun Ladringan to one year in prison, all suspended except for 23 days, for criminal mischief. Naraja gave the 25-year-old Ladringan credit for the 23 days he had already served in jail.

The judge placed him on one year of supervised probation and required him to perform 50 hours of community service and pay a $100 probation fee, $25 court assessment fee, and $1,250 restitution to I-Mart.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Ladringan and Jin Xuan Zhe with conspiracy to commit theft, theft, and criminal mischief.

Ladringan and counsel, chief public defender Adam Hardwicke, signed an agreement with the government, pleading guilty to criminal mischief. The remaining charges were dismissed.

Zhe also negotiated a plea agreement with the government. His change of plea hearing was set for Monday, Feb. 8.

A police detective stated in his report that the I-Mart management identified the two then employees as the suspects of a burglary at the store.

The detective said Ladringan confessed to him and his employer that he and Zhe stole 50 cans of Spam from the warehouse in December 2007. The two sold the items to another storeowner and they split the proceeds.

Ladringan claimed that they gained entry into the warehouse by cutting a hole about 30 centimeters in diameter in the wall. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

High school seniors learn the ropes through WIA

A total of 28 qualifying and registered high school seniors are currently being subsidized by the Workforce Investment Agency to earn work experience through participating employers in this academic year 2009-2010. The program provides early preparation for students to determine what careers interests they want to pursue in college.

WIA executive director Edith Deleon Guerrero said the program gives the youth an opportunity to receive hands-on training on the daily functions of an organization through the guidance of senior employees, and to acquire the necessary skills that will ensure their success when entering the employment market in their adult life.

"WIA is proud and appreciative of its strong collaboration and partnership with its state workforce partners and employers within the private and public sector," said Deleon Guerrero.

Under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, every school year WIA enters into partnerships with participating high schools for seniors enrolled in the Cooperative Education Program, COOP, a school program combining classroom instruction and work experience.

"It is a learn-and-earn concept that includes high school credits required for graduation," said Deleon Guerrero.

Through the agency's "Power of E3+1" (Education, Employment, Economic Development and Ethics), WIA and its partners recognize the importance of transforming the CNMI's workforce into a talent-based system by building its foundation on a strong education and training system with emphasis on basic skills such as reading, writing, mathematics, literacy to include computer literacy, good work ethics and other skills necessary for the individual's success. ***(PR)***

NMC set to offer beginner Korean language course

Beginner Korean Language Course

- Feb. 5 to March 26, 2010 (every Friday)
- 4:30pm to 6pm
- Room A-12 (NMC Campus)
- Fee: $55

The Northern Marianas College, through the Division of Community Programs and Services' Community Development Institute, is offering a short-term course to interested individuals who wish to improve their beginner Korean language skills.

The course is designed to reinforce the fundamentals of the Korean language. It is a proficiency based foreign language course and focuses on developing listening, comprehension, vocabulary and expressions to be able to communicate in Korean.

For a more detailed description of the course, contact CDI at 234-5498 ext. 1010 or log on to www.nmcnet.edu.

All interested individuals should register at least seven days before the first day of class. Certificates of attendance and competence will be awarded to registered students who complete all course requirements. Full payment is required for admission to a class. To register or for information about the course, visit the CDI Office in Building P on the NMC Campus in As Terlaje or call John Manalo at 234-5498 extension 1010 or e-mail johnm@nmcnet.edu. ***(NMC)***

Advertising Feature

Discover health benefits of Saipan Noni Juice

Discover the health benefits of Saipan Noni Juice, made by long-time businessman Ta Bun Kuy.

This month mark my fifth year of processing and drinking my Noni Juice. After all these years of experimenting and seeing the results in myself and my customers, I can tell you how my Noni Juice can help and benefit you in relieving common problems like high blood pressure, constipation, menstrual cramps, and sinus, to serious ones like diabetes and thyroid cancer. The best thing is it also anti-aging and reverses aging.

I also noticed many stories from my customers:

1. Customers really appreciate and drink daily and they always introduce Noni for others to try.

2. Customers get better and stop drinking. They wait until health problems return, then they start to drink again.

3. Customers have no patience. They expect the first bottle will make them feel better.

4. Customers don't believe at all.

5. Customers have tried other Noni juice products that do not work, so they don't want to try again because they think all Noni juice are the same.

6. Wife/husband really benefits, but the husband/wife refuses to drink due to the smell.

To all my friends and customers, my Noni Juice has already been proven effective. If I improve the taste, that means I need to add something to the Noni Juice, and I don't think it will be effective anymore.

Saipan has the highest number of high blood pressure patients and diabetics than any other states. It hurts to see some of my friends pass away at an early age, when there is a product made on Saipan that will help them become healthy and live longer life.

There are many Noni products made by different companies around the world. I believe I am the only one whose Noni product has my picture. No preservatives added and guaranteed results or your money back. So far, as of today, no one has asked for a refund.

My Noni Juice improved my health and changed my life. I am sure it will make you healthier and enjoy better life too.

Let's drink Noni Juice for a healthier you!

Amy Torres, 53 years old

Amy Torres is a Noni Juice drinker. She started drinking Noni Juice when she read the testimony ads of Dr. Joyner. She has known Dr. Joyner for long time ago and didn't know that he was suffering from prostate cancer. One day she met Mr. and Mrs. Ta Bun Kuy at Sabalu Market and asked them about the Noni Juice and how it will improve her health because she has a thyroid problem. After that, she bought one bottle of Noni Juice. After a month she went to her doctor for a check up. Surprisingly, her thyroid reaction has gone down and her heart palpitation was gone. In the morning, she drinks noni juice on an empty stomach and after an hour she would drink her medicine for her thyroid. Noni Juice also helps her lower her cholesterol level from 224 to 164. Noni Juice became her maintenance on her thyroid problem. She says that she suggested to her mother to drink Noni Juice because her mother could walk due to her swollen feet. Her mother tried it, then after a week of drinking Noni Juice she felt better and could walk little by little. Also, her sister drank Noni Juice and now she can sleep well. She also recommends Noni Juice to her friends and relatives. She has proven that Noni Juice is really effective and the price is affordable. She's is now a regular noni juice drinker.

Torres

Leo Purrugganan, accountant, Capital Hotel

My boss always asked me to buy Noni Juice and send it to Taiwan. He asked me to try it because he said it is good for the health. I bought a Noni Juice and tried it. In July 2008 I was diagnosed with high prostate level. Then, after 3 month of drinking noni juice I felt better, my blood sugar went down and became normal. In May 2009 I got a check up again and the doctor was shocked because my prostate level has gone down from 13 to .58. I was very happy. Now Noni Juice became my maintenance.

I recommended this to my wife because she is suffering for vertigo (dizziness). Actually, she did not want to drink it because of the smell but I told her, "If you want to feel better and healthier, drink this Noni Juice," and she tried it. After she finished four bottles of Noni Juice she felt stronger and healthier and never felt any dizziness. Her coworkers at the bank noticed that she now looks very healthy.

Purrugganan

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Business

Toyota Prius brake complaints climb to about 180

TOKYO (AP)—Complaints in the U.S. and Japan about brake problems in Toyota's popular Prius hybrid have swelled to about 180, adding to the string of quality troubles for the world's biggest automaker.

The news Thursday of a significant number of new brake complaints comes as Toyota grapples with massive global recalls—linked to faulty gas pedals and floor mats that can jam accelerators—that are battering its image.

The latest 77 complaints in Japan involve the new Prius model, which went on sale in Japan and the United States in May 2009, Toyota spokeswoman Ririko Takeuchi said. The Prius was Japan's top-selling car last year.

Japan's transport ministry said Wednesday it had received 14 complaints from Prius drivers, including one involving an accident in July 2009 in which a Prius crashed head on into another car, slightly injuring two people. It wasn't clear whether there was any overlap between those 14 complaints and the 77 announced Thursday.

The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration says it has received about 100 complaints involving the brakes of the new Prius. Two involved crashes resulting in injuries.

Takeuchi said Toyota itself has received eight complaints in North America, including one in Canada. But she said Toyota knew of no accidents among the complaints it received in Japan and North America.

Toyota shares continued to tumble on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, falling 3.5 percent in the morning session Thursday to 3,280 yen after plunging 5.7 percent the previous day. Since Jan. 21, the day the gas pedal recall was announced, the stock has tumbled about 22 percent.

The automaker's sales are being battered in the U.S.—its biggest market—due to the recalls of top-selling models to fix a gas pedal that can stick in the depressed position.

"The latest Prius troubles have really damaged Toyota's brand. Uncertainty over the Prius trouble will only prompt more consumers to dump Toyota," said Ryoichi Saito, auto analyst at Mizuho Investors Securities Co. Ltd.

Pay czar: AIG bonuses are 'outrageous' but legal

NEW YORK (AP)—Bonus payments totaling $100 million to AIG employees from the same unit that prompted a massive taxpayer bailout are "outrageous" but allowed under the law, the Obama administration's pay czar said Wednesday.

Kenneth Feinberg said the retention bonuses were contractual obligations agreed upon years ago, before American International Group Inc. received a $180 billion federal rescue at the height of the financial crisis in late 2008.

"These are the old grandfathered payments," Feinberg told ABC's "Good Morning America," adding: "I do not for a minute ignore the outrage out there, which I share. But the fact of the matter is we've got to abide by the law."

Feinberg said he's working to get back as much of the bonus money as possible. He said AIG employees have agreed to repay 39 million out of $45 million in previous bonuses to the U.S. Treasury.

AIG is set to pay the bonuses Wednesday to employees of its financial products division, the unit whose risky bets helped sink the company and trigger the largest corporate bailout in U.S. history.

AIG still owes the government $120.7 billion of its bailout.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
CPA-RFP-001-10

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting sealed cost proposals for trash collection services for a period of two years. The collection locations and scope of work package is available Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor, Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport.

Interested proposers are encouraged to contact CPA's Terminal Maintenance Department at 237-6500 to make arrangements for a site visit of the trash collection locations.

Interested proposers must submit one original and four copies of the sealed cost proposals for a term of two-year service, a description of proposer's past performance and experience, list of equipment, and proof of insurance in compliance with CPA's insurance requirements. The employees of the winning proposers who will access secured areas at the airport will be required to obtain an airport security badge which includes finger-printing and a criminal background check, which will be at the expense of the proposer.

The sealed proposals must be submitted before **4:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 19, 2010**, at the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Building, at the Saipan International Airport. CPA reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if in its opinion to do so is in CPA's best interest.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO February 1, 2010
Executive Director

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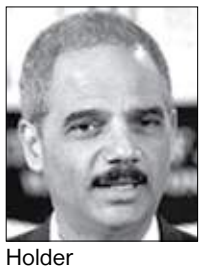
Nation

Holder: I made decision to charge terror suspect

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attorney General Eric Holder said Wednesday he made the decision to charge the Christmas Day terror suspect in civilian court rather than the military system, with no objection from all the other relevant departments of the government.


Holder

In a letter to Senate Republican Leader Mitch McConnell, the attorney general wrote that the FBI told its partners in the intelligence community on Christmas Day and again the next day that Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab would be charged criminally.

Holder's letter was the latest volley in a vigorous counterattack by the Obama administration to Republican charges that the arrest and FBI interrogation of the Detroit suspect was a mistake that cost a chance to learn key information.

The letter followed less than 24 hours after senior administration officials disclosed that the suspect had resumed talking to U.S. interrogators last week after breaking off his discussions the day of his arrest.

Abdulmutallab has discussed his contacts in Yemen and provided intelligence in multiple terrorism investigations, officials say.

Holder said that the possibility of detaining Abdulmutallab in the U.S. military system under the law of war was explicitly discussed in the days following the arrest, including at a Jan. 5 meeting that included President Barack Obama and senior members of the national security team.

"No agency supported the use of law of war detention for Abdulmutallab, and no agency has since advised the Department of Justice that an alternative course of action should have been, or should now be, pursued," the attorney general wrote.

Holder said his decision was consistent with earlier practices followed uniformly in both the Obama and Bush administrations.

Obama prescribes election plan to Democrats: Lead

WASHINGTON (AP)—In a blunt election prescription for his own skittish party, President Barack Obama on Wednesday implored Democratic leaders to swing big, be honest with an angry public and expose any obstructionism by Republicans.

"We still have to lead," Obama told Democratic senators in a pep talk that unfolded on live TV.

That line alone revealed how much the political dynamic has changed in just two weeks, as Senate Democrats watched their voting numbers slip from 60 to 59 in a special Massachusetts election that sent shudders through the party. That one vote cost them the muscle to overcome Republican stalling tactics, forcing the Democratic president to adapt in hopes of salvaging this year and his agenda.

His advice: Get results, and this year's midterm elections will work out fine.

Let policy be our politics, Obama told the senators, and make sure everyone knows about petty acts by the opposition.

ACROSS THE NATION

Gates: Don't rush to lift ban on gays in military

WASHINGTON (AP)—The United States should not rush into a change as large as repealing the ban on gays serving openly in the military without making sure the people it affects are on board, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Wednesday. Gates and Adm. Mike Mullen, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said an 11-month study into the effects of lifting the ban will examine practical questions such as how the change would affect the numbers of people who decide to remain in the service when their terms expire. "There is very little objective data on this. It is filled as you know with emotion and strongly held opinions and beliefs," Mullen said a day after announcing his own opposition to the ban as unfair to gay troops.

Motivational speaker charged in sweat lodge deaths

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP)—Motivational speaker James Arthur Ray was arrested Wednesday on manslaughter charges after three people died following a northern Arizona sweat lodge ceremony he led last year. Ray was taken into custody on an indictment at his attorney's office in Prescott and later led into the Yavapai County jail in Camp Verde wearing blue jeans, tennis shoes and a dark jacket. His bond was set at $5 million, and his first court hearing was scheduled Thursday. Ray's attorneys said Wednesday he surrendered to authorities but that the charges were unjust and they were confident he would be exonerated in court. If convicted, he faces a minimum of 3 years and a maximum of 12 1/2 years on each count.

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

3rd NOTICE OF SALE
UNDER POWER OF SALE
IN DEED OF TRUST

Anthony P. Sonoda and Lorraine Anne C. Sonoda now known as Lorraine Anne T. Cabrera, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about March 11, 2002 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on March 11, 2002 under Document No. 02-585 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 019 I 30, CONTAINING AN AREA OF 948 SQUARE METERS, MORE OR LESS, AS MORE PARTICULARLY SHOWN ON THE SURVEY PLAT OF SUBDIVISION OF LOT 019 I 04, DLS CHECK NO. 019 I 02, THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS FILED WITH THE COMMONWEALTH RECORDER'S OFFICE, AS FILE NO. 91-2320, ON MAY 13, 1991

The Trustor has defaulted on payment on the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Notice of Default on January 21, 2009. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC SS 4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Friday, February 19, 2010 at 10:00 a.m., at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. The minimum bid offer shall be not less than **Eighty-Eight Thousand Thirty and 00/100 ($88,030.00)**, the total amount due under the VA loan.

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

DATED this 15th day of January, 2010.

BY: /S/ Joshua T. Sasamoto
Corporate Director NMHC

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

January 20, 2010

To all Concern,

This is to inform the general public that effective December 02, 2009 Mr. Carlos A. Ballesteros with LIIDS No. 104819 is no longer an affiliate of Saipan Cool Water. Therefore, any transaction and or agreement entered into with Mr. Ballesteros, will not be entertained by Saipan Cool Water and Ice Inc. and will not be responsible or liable on the said transaction.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lorenzo Deleon Guerrero
Manager, Saipan Cool Water & Ice Inc.

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REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

This is to inform all Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)-approved Contractors (especially the Tinian and Rota contractors) that we are currently updating our Approved Contractor Listing. In order for NMHC to extend your company's inclusion on its listing for another year, you must submit the documentations listed below. Those companies who wish to be included are likewise encouraged to submit the following:

1. Valid CNMI Business License
2. Current Financial Statements (certified by the principle executive officer and principle financial officer)
3. 2 Years Business Gross Revenue (BGR) Tax Returns
4. Clearance Letter from the Department of Labor
5. Certificate of Compliance from the Revenue & Taxation Office
6. Workmen's Compensation Policy
7. Name of Insurance Company(ies) Currently Dealing With
8. A list of on-going/completed projects showing name of project, start and completion dates, and contract amounts including three (3) reference letters from owners of the projects
9. List of vendors and suppliers and at least three reference letters from them
10. The company's total years in the construction business
11. Articles of Incorporation & Company By-Laws, if applicable

FAILURE TO SUBMIT THE ABOVE DOCUMENTS BY MARCH 08, 2010 WILL RESULT IN YOUR COMPANY'S ELIMINATION FROM OUR LIST OF "APPROVED CONTRACTORS."

NMHC encourages Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE) to participate in this Request for Qualifications and that they will be afforded full opportunity to participate and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, or disability status.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

/s/ JOSHUA T. SASAMOTO

NMHC is an equal housing provider, lender and employer.

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel: (670) 234-7859
Fax: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Bank of Guam

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM, Plaintiff, vs. **RICARDO R. DADO and DELIA S. DADO,** Defendants.	**Civil Action No. 09-0466-CV** **AMENDED SUMMONS**

TO: THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT RICARDO R. DADO :

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED TO APPEAR by the 21st day after the fourth date of publication of this AMENDED SUMMONS and defend the above entitled action in the CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, at the Office of Clerk of Court, CNMI SUPERIOR COURT, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Ilmwal Aweewe, House of Justice, Susupe Village, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan MP 96950-0307; and answer the Complaint for Foreclosure by Plaintiff Bank of Guam, and serve a copy of your answer upon Robert Tenorio Torres, attorney for Plaintiff Bank of Guam, at Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya), P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950; and in case of failure to do so, a default may be rendered against you according to the demand of the Complaint for Foreclosure, which have been filed with the Clerk of Court.

So ORDERED this 17th day of December, 2009.

/s/Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

CITY TRUST BANK, Plaintiff, -v-. **ALEINA D. HOFSCHNEIDER, ALVIN U. HOFSCHNEIDER, and LOUISE C. HOFSCHNEIDER,** Defendants.	**CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0505** **SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION**

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFFENDANTS, ALVIN U. HOFSCHNEIDER AND LOUISE C. HOFSCHNEIDER:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, the Plaintiff's Attorneys, whose address is P.O. Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above court:

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Dated, this 23rd day of January, 2010.

TORRES BROTHERS, LLC.
Joaquin DLG. Torres, Esq. (F0257)
Attorney at Law
Middle Road, Garapan
P.O. Box 501856
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. No. (670) 233-5503/4/6
Fax No. (670) 233-5510

Attorneys for Petitioner
Alice Beldad Deleon Guerrero

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF ANTONIO VILLAGOMEZ DELEON GUERRERO, Deceased.	**CIVIL ACTION NO.: 10-0009** **AMENDED NOTICE OF HEARING AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

NOTICE is hereby given that a petitioner for Letters of Administration seeking appointment of Alice Beldad Deleon Guerrero as Administratrix of the Estate of AntonioVillagomez Deleon Guerrero (Deceased), was filed in the above entitled Court. A hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in Courtroom **202A** of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the House of Justice-Guma Hustisia-Imwal Aweewe, Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at **1:30 p.m. on February 23, 2010.**

All persons having any objection to the petition, or having a claim against the Estate or against the deceased, should file their claim with the Clerk of Court of the Commonwealth Superior Court within sixty (60) days after the first publication of this notice.

Dated this 27th day of January, 2010.

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court

TORRES BROTHERS, LLC.
Vincent DLG. Torres, Esq. (F0258)
Attorney at Law
Middle Road, Garapan
P.O. Box 501856
Saipan, MP 96950

Tel. No. (670) 233-5503/4/6
Fax No. (670) 233-5510

Attorneys for Petitioner
John Muna Borja

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF: CLARISSE JOY K. BORJA, Minor Child, **BY: JOHN MUNA BORJA,** Petitioner.	**FCD-AD CIVIL ACTION NO.: 10-0036** **NOTICE OF HEARING**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that a petition for Adoption for the above-named minor child by JOHN MUNA BORJA, (Petitioner"), was filed in the above entitled Honorable Court and is open for review at the office of the Clerk of the said Court in Susupe, Saipan Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A HEARING of said Petition for Adoption will be held at the above-entitled Honorable Court at Guma Hustisia Building, Susupe, Saipan, CNMI, in courtroom 205A on the 4th day of March 2010, at 1:30 p.m.

Dated this 23rd day of January, 2010.

/s/Deputy Clerk of Court

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

INVITATION TO BID
ITB10-GOV-051

PSS TERMITE TREATMENT – VARIOUS SCHOOLS

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, are soliciting sealed bids for the PSS Termite Treatment – Various Schools project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands:

The project package will be available Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A Sablan Building, Capitol Hill. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the project package will be assessed. All interested bidders are required to include an Insurer Certification Clearance (ICC) in their bid package in order to bid on this project. The ICC should be obtained at the Department of Commerce, Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference/Site Visit for this project on Monday, February 8, 2010, 9:00 a.m., Saipan local time, at the project site, starting at Marianas High School, Susupe. All questions regarding this project must be submitted by email or in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on February 15, 2010 to Mr. Chris Fryling, Project Manager, Capital Improvements Office, Office of the Governor, Juan A. Sablan Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, at chris@n15architects.com, or faxed to (670) 664-2408.

Sealed bids must be marked **"ITB10-GOV-051"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, February 22, 2010. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time February 22, 2010, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than February 22, 2010 and must be received no later than 3:00 p.m. March 1, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 4:00 p.m. Saipan local time, March 1, 2010. However, if no notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will opened at 11:00 a.m. Saipan local time, on February 22, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars ($25,000.00) a bid bond of fifteen percent (15 %) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be a Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the CNMI Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price. The surety company providing the Performance and Payment bonds must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI and possess unencumbered assets equal to the penal amount of each bond. Performance time for completion of this project is **ninety (90)** calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. The daily amount of liquidated damages shall be greater of (i) two hundred fifty dollars **($250.00)**, or (ii) two percent (2%) of the contract price divided by ninety (90) calendar days, the contract time and will be assessed as delays beyond the established completion date.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not effect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/ BENIGNO R. FITIAL, Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel.: (670) 664-2375 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP10-GOV-043

ARCHITECTURAL & ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES SANITARY LANDFILL, TINIAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lieutenant Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Office, (collectively, "Commonwealth") are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified Consultants to provide the A/E Design of the Tinian Sanitary Landfill located at the Atgidon site on Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, or latest revision thereof. Preference is available to US citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95, as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the Proposal if preference is claimed.

The complete Scope of Work for the A/E services required will be available on Tuesday, February 16, 2010, at the Governor's CIP Administrator's Office, Juan A. Sablan Administration Building, Capitol Hill. A non-refundable payment of Fifty Dollars (US $50.00) is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the CIP Office, Maug Drive, Capitol Hill. A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting will be held at the Governor's Conference Room, Capitol Hill on Wednesday, March 31, 2010. Questions regarding the RFP must be submitted in writing to Mr. James R. Stump, CIP Contracting Officer, or faxed to (670) 664-2408, no later than 4 p.m., Saipan local time April 07, 2010.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and a Schedule of Completion, addressing the Scope of Work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished by the consultants, with the names of the responsible persons identified. Proposers shall also submit a statement of qualifications with resumes and experience for the responsible persons. The total proposal length shall not exceed thirty (30) pages in length. Note that a firm which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot also submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, as a subcontractor, the consultant may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. Qualifications and Background of the Company(s) and proposed assigned personnel - 25%
2. Past experience of the consultant on design of similar projects - 25%
3. Project Approach and Schedule for Completion - 25%
4. Demonstrated capability of ability to perform the work required - 25%
5. Proposed Costs to perform the A.E design work - 0%

Performance time for completion of the A/E design is One Hundred Sixty (160) calendar days upon issuance of a Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages will be assessed at Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (US$250.00) for each and every working day beyond the established completion date.

Discussions shall be conducted with the top three (3) ranked firms. After a selection is made negotiations will be conducted with the highest qualified firm to determine the final fair and reasonable price of the contract for the work to be performed. The successful proposers will be subjected to a responsibility and responsiveness determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"RFP10-GOV-043, A/E Design of the Tinian Sanitary Landfill"**. For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, MP, no later than 10:00 a.m. Saipan local time, April 30, 2010. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., Saipan local time, April 30, 2010, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than, April 30, 2010, and must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than May 11, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies of the proposal may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial, CNMI Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director of Procurement & Supply

H1N1 Mass Vaccination Drive will be held on:

NO CHC BLUE CARD NEEDED

February 6th, Saturday

- Kagman Community Center from 8 AM to 1 PM

The more people vaccinated, the less likely the flu will spread in the coming months.

You can also visit any health clinic on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to get vaccinated.

For more information, visit the Department of Public Health's H1N1 Preparedness Website at http://h1n1dph.gov.mp .

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
PSS IFB 10-002

"SECURITY SERVICES FOR SAN VICENTE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (SVES)"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting Competitive Sealed Bids for **One (1) Year Campus Security Services for San Vicente Elementary School (SVES).**

The Scope of Work is available beginning January 22, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Faxed request maybe sent to 664-3791.

Bids should be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-002"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office no later than **February 11, 2010 at 10:00 a.m.,** at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax # (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@pss.cnmi.mp

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
PSS IFB 10-003

"LAPTOPS FOR THE PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS)"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting Competitive Sealed Bids for **THREE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED EIGHTY (3380) LAPTOPS FOR THE CNMI PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS).**

The Scope of Work is available beginning January 22, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Faxed request maybe sent to 664-3791.

Bids should be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-003"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office no later than **February 10, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.,** at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax # (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@pss.cnmi.mp

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PSS RFP 10-004

"SYSTEMS NETWORK HEALTH ASSESSMENT"

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competive sealed proposals from individuals or firms interested to "Perform a Network Health Assessment for the Public School System (PSS)." Detailed information on the scope of work is available beginning February 05, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol HIll, Saipan, MP 96950.

There will be a Pre-Proposal Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. at the COE Conference Room, 3rd floor Retirement Fund Building. Questions must be in writing and addressed to Joe Torres, E-rate Coordinator via fax to 670.6643791 or e-mail to torresj@pss.cnmi.mp no later than February 26, 2010.

Proposals shall be in a sealed envelope face marked "RFP 10-004" containing (1) original and three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office no later than Tuesday, March 02, 2010 at 9:00 A.M. Any proposal submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950

INVITATION FOR BID
PSS IFB 10-005

"SECURITY SERVICES FOR KAGMAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL (KES)"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting Competitive Sealed Bids for One (1) Year Campus Security Services for Kagman Elementary School (KES).

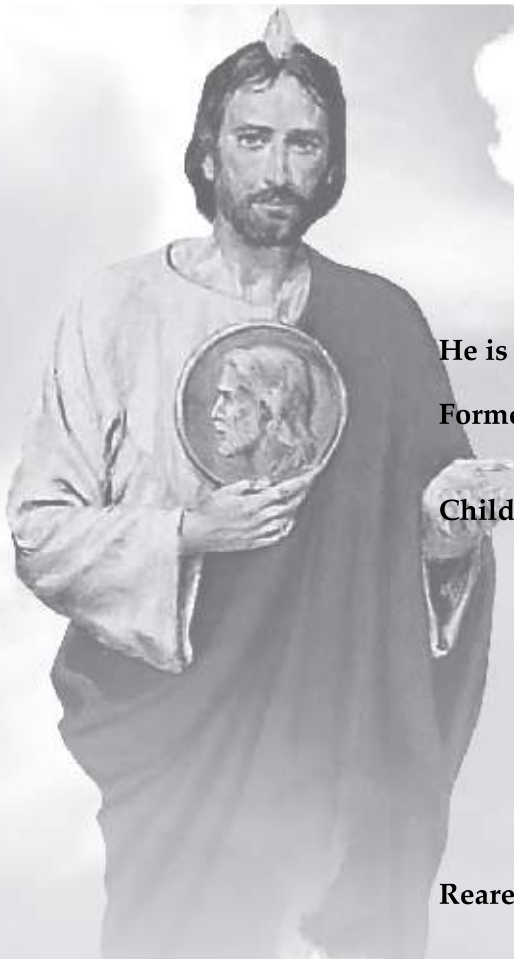
The Scope of Work is available beginning February 05, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the CNMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan MP 96950. Faxed request maybe sent to 664-3791.

Bids should be placed in a sealed envelope marked **"IFB 10-005"** containing one (1) original with three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement & Supply Office no later than **February 17, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.,** at which time, bids will be publicly opened. Any bids received after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

Questions must be in writing and addressed to Robert Florian, Procurement Officer via fax # (670) 664-3791 or e-mailed to the following address: robert.florian@pss.cnmi.mp

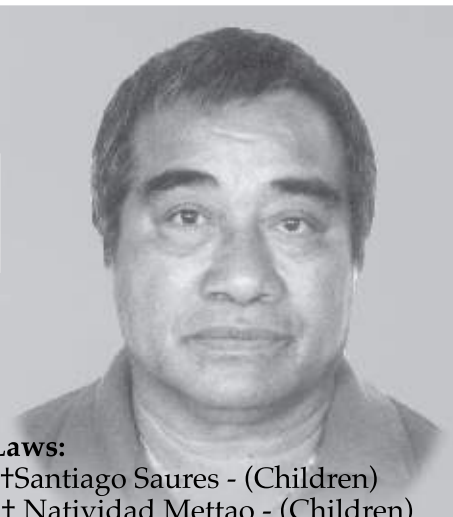
/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



In loving memory of

Estevan M. Mettao



December 07, 1943 - January 31, 2010

He is survived by his Wife:
Dao Wiboonsin Mettao

Former wife:
Rosa Peter Afable

Children, Grand Children & Great Grandchildren:
Julie M. / Darius Besong - (Children)
Marvin Mettao / Naruko - (Children)
Daniel Mettao / Joanne - (Children)
Steve Jr. Mettao / Evelyn - (Children)
Downna M. / Ories Douglas - (Children)
Seren M. / George Salas - (Children)
†Dean Mettao / J.D. Mcttao (Son)
Greg Mettao / Tina - (Children)
Arleen M. / Elvin Abol- (Children)
Eddie Mettao John W. Mettao

Reared Children:
Chris-John (Tatu) S. Selepeo & James S. Selepeo

Brothers, Sister and In-Laws:
†Carmen M. / †Santiago Saures - (Children)
†Nicanor M. / † Natividad Mettao - (Children)
Isidro M. Mettao - (Children)
Jesus M. Mettao / †Consolacion H. Naputi - (Children)
Rafael M. / † Rita S. Mettao (Children)
Sompong Mahayon
Dawan Wiboonsin

Parents:
(Family better known as "DUMANG"
†Jose P. Mettao & †Maria M. Mettao

Parents In-Law:
†John Wiboonsin & Nan Wiboonsin

Nephew: †Rafael S. Mettao
Niece: †Reina M. Nedlic

Remains will be escorted from CHC Chapel on Sunday, February 07, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. to the residence of his daughter & son In-law Julie M. & Darius Besong in Dandan, followed by Responsorial. Holy Rosary will be said at 7:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

On Monday, February 08, 2010 at 10:30 a.m., remains will be escorted from his daughter & son in-law's residence to Saint Jude Church. Mass of christian burial will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by internment at Chalan Kanoa Cemetary.

Thank You, Olomwaay, Dangkulo Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

Please come and join us in prayers.

Dao Wiboonsin Mettao, Children, and Family

IN CELEBRATION OF HIS NEW LIFE

Juan Cruz Aguon

April 18, 1955 — February 3, 2010

In his new life, he now joins her:

Wife: Victoria Santos Borja Aguon
Father: Juan Borja Aguon
Mother: Maria Cruz Aguon
Father In-Law: Daniel Tudela Borja
Mother In-Law: Joaquina Sablan Santos Borja
Daughter: Victoria Borja Aguon
Grandson: Jose Borja
Brothers and Sisters-In-Law: David C. and Winnifrieda T. Aguon
Bernadette C. Aguon
Jesse James C. Aguon
Leticia C. Borja

He is survived by his:

Children: Frances Borja and Oscar Pangelinan (*Nathaniel, Dustin Jon, Oscar, Jr.*)
Joaquina Borja Aguon and Isidoro Cabrera (*Toriana Lourdes*)
John Vincent Borja Aguon and Yvonne Demello

Reared Daughters: Victoria M. and Brainard Jones
Bernadine B. Montague

Reared Grandchild: Devin Calvo Santos

Brothers, Sisters and In-Laws: Helen A. & David Chellis and children
Ricardo C. & Mikella Aguon and children
Joseph C. & Helen Aguon and children
Catalina A. & Pete Salamone and children
Edward C. & Magdalena DLG. Aguon and children
Bernadita C. Aguon
Frances C. Aguon & Ernest Candoleta and children
Margarita A. and Kenneth Leon Guerrero and children

Brothers and Sisters In-Laws: Vicente S. Borja and children
Jose S. & Nancy Borja and children
Juan S. & Nicolasa B. Borja and children
Maria B. & Jose H. Salas and children
Ines B. & Thomas Castro and children
Daniel S. Borja, Jr.
Roman S. & Anita A. Borja and children

Family Friends: Bernie Montague and Nida Bragado

She is additionally survived by numerous Aunts, Uncles, Godchildren, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins and Friends.

Daily morning mass is being offered at 6 a.m. at the Kristo Rai Church. Nightly Rosary is being prayed at 8:00 p.m. at Kristo Rai Church.

On Tuesday, February 9, 2010, there will be a viewing at the Borja Funeral Home from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

On Thursday, February 11, 2010, the departed will be taken from the Borja Funeral Home at 7:00 a.m. to Kristo Rai Church and Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10:00 a.m.

Interment Service will follow at the family residence in As Teo.

World

Intelligence official: US believes Mehsud is dead

WASHINGTON (AP)—U.S. counterterrorism officials believe Pakistani Taliban leader Hakimullah Mehsud is dead following a missile attack last month, a senior intelligence official said Wednesday in the strongest signal that Washington has offered about the militant's fate.

Neither Pakistan nor the U.S. has officially confirmed the death of Mehsud, who commands an al-Qaida-allied movement that is blamed for scores of suicide bombings and is suspected in a deadly attack on a CIA base in Afghanistan late last year.

Mehsud's death would be the latest successful strike against suspected terrorists by the U.S. and its allies. The U.S. has recently stepped up attacks from unmanned aircraft in Pakistan, and a closer collaboration with Yemen has led to recent airstrikes there. President Barack Obama highlighted the increasing success of such attacks in his State of the Union address last week.

Mehsud

The U.S. intelligence official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss sensitive security matters, said the conclusion that Mehsud is dead represents the best collective information of U.S. intelligence agencies.

Since the attack, authorities have said they were growing increasingly confident Mehsud was dead. The official would not say what evidence the U.S. had gathered.

The statement came after days of posturing by Pakistani Taliban officials, who first said they would prove their leader was alive and well, then reversed course and said they saw no need to prove it.

The attack by a U.S. drone came after Mehsud appeared in a video alongside the Jordanian suicide bomber who killed seven CIA employees at a remote base in Afghanistan. The bomber, Humam Khalil Abu-Mulal al-Balawi, said he carried out the attack in retribution for the death of former Pakistani Taliban leader Baitullah Mehsud in a U.S. drone strike last August.

Baitullah Mehsud's death gave leadership of the Pakistani Taliban to his deputy, Hakimullah Mehsud, a 28-year-old with a reputation as a particularly ruthless militant.

Iran seeking nuke compromise–or is it?

VIENNA (AP)—Iran's effort to revive talks on a deal that would inhibit the country's ability to make a nuclear weapon was met with skepticism by world leaders Wednesday, a reaction to months of waffling by Tehran.

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's suggestion that he would at last agree to export a significant amount of uranium for processing comes as the U.N. considers a fourth round of sanctions against the country for failing to rein in their nuclear program. The timing raises suspicions that Iran is just trying to buy time.

Iran now possesses more than enough enriched uranium for at least one nuclear warhead and the U.N. Security Council has demanded the Islamic Republic freeze its enrichment program. An agreement worked out by the International Atomic Energy Agency would delay Tehran's ability to make such a weapon by requiring the country to export 70 percent of its uranium stock and then wait for up to a year for it to be processed and returned as fuel rods for a research reactor.

Ahmadinejad stopped short of accepting the agreement in its entirety, offering a shorter turnaround time for return of the fuel rods. Iranian Foreign Minister Manouchehr Mottaki described it as a "formula which could build confidence."

Parents willingly gave children to US Baptists

CALLEBAS, Haiti (AP)—Desperate parents in this struggling village perched above Haiti's earthquake-flattened capital said they gave their children away willingly, trusting the American missionaries who promised to take them to a better life.

The stories the villagers told The Associated Press on Wednesday contradict claims by the Baptist group's leader that the children came from orphanages or were handed over by distant relatives. But they also attest to the misery of a nation that was the hemisphere's poorest even before the Jan. 12 earthquake struck.

The 10 Baptists, most from Idaho, were arrested last week trying to take 33 Haitian children across the border into the Dominican Republic without the required documents, according to Haitian authorities, who have accused them of child trafficking.

The Americans are to appear Thursday before a prosecutor who will decide whether to file charges or release them, Communications Minister Marie-Laurence Jocelyn Lassegue told the AP.

WORLD BRIEFS

Chavez turns to Cubans for help with energy crisis

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez has turned to his friends in Cuba for help in tackling Venezuela's energy crisis, drawing criticism for seeking advice from the communist-led island that has struggled with its own electricity woes. Chavez gave few details on Wednesday about what is expected of Cuba, but insisted that "it's valuable experience that's serving us well." He said that he spoke for hours Tuesday with Cuban Vice President Ramiro Valdes after his arrival in Venezuela to lead the consulting team. The decision to seek help from Cuba bewildered Venezuelans coping with the nation's power shortage.

1 year on, China stays silent on missing lawyer

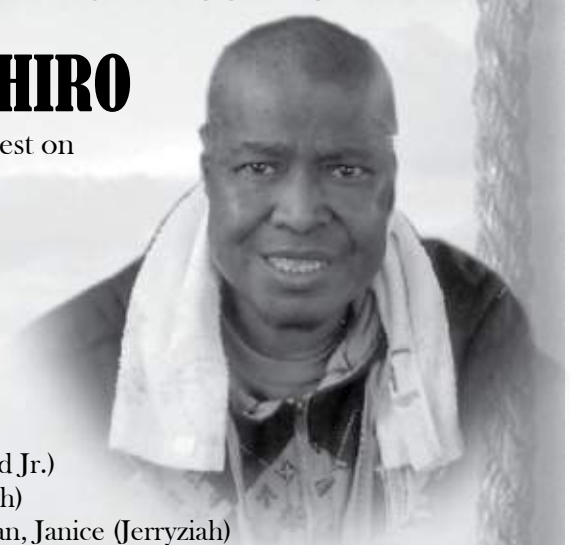
BEIJING (AP)—One of China's most daring activist lawyers disappeared a year ago Thursday, and the government that so closely monitored him has not explained where he is, infuriating even those used to Beijing's indifference to outside pressure on human rights. High-profile dissidents have disappeared in China before, but not for so long without details from authorities. Family and friends have no idea whether Gao Zhisheng, who had been under strict police surveillance, is even in custody. Officials have been teasingly vague, with a policeman telling Gao Zhiyi his brother "went missing" and a Foreign Ministry official last month saying the self-taught lawyer "is where he should be." As is typical in China, state-run media have not mentioned the case.

RP military: Height doesn't matter

MANILA, Philippines (AP—Vertically challenged Filipinos who want to enlist in the military can now stand tall. The Philippine armed forces has lowered the height requirement for all applicants to 5 feet (1.52 meters). Military civil relations chief Francisco Cruz says the new rule, down from 5.4 feet (1.65 meters) for males and 5.2 feet (1.58 meters) for females, aims to widen the pool of candidates and raise the quality of new recruits. The 120,776-strong force battling communist and Muslim insurgents as well as al-Qaida-linked militants hires some 6,000 men and women yearly due to natural attrition. Cruz says Filipinos on average are shorter than Westerners but brain power is more important than height.

Death & Funeral Announcement

CAPT. JERRY S. KOSHIRO



Was called by our creator to his eternal rest on January 29, 2010 at the age of 52.

In his new Life, he now joins his:
Father : †Francisco Tetsuo Koshiro
Sister : †Lucia Santos Koshiro
Brother : †Christian Santos Koshiro

He is survived by his:
Mother : Antonia Ngirmeriel
Children: Gregorio, Leina & Bernard (Bernard Jr.)
Jeremy & Jenise, Jadine (Aldene Jayh)
Jamielyn & Clayton, Jasmer, Jonathan, Janice (Jerryziah)
Common Law Wife : Josepha Aldan Dela Cruz
Step Children : Edward Jr. & Geralyn (Junnie, Peter)
Eric & Sorena (Josieleena)
Dorcia & Joshua (Victoria, Hannah)
Thesia & Vincent (Vincent II, JInesha)
Christina & Felix (Dreyvan, Ethan)
Georgena (Christian James)
Rico, Martin Jr.

Brothers and Sisters:
Lourdes and Blokaski – (Jordan, Jonathan)
Esther – (Brendalynn, Ryandra)
Linda & Crispin – (Jason, Jessica, Jennifer, JB, Jlynn)
Salvador & Honora – (Malcolm, Leah, Brian, Ariel, Zachary)
Nicanor & Grace – (Kenji, Kaya)
Gregorio

Reared Brother/Confirmation God Son:
Patrick Ulechong & Marivic (Kaye, Isaiah, Elisha)

Uncles and Aunts:
Merol and Lydia, Setsuo and Brenda, Ignacio & Selma, Auntina & Jonathan, Rurung, Ericka, Camelius

He is additionally survived by numerous aunts, uncles, nephews and nieces.

Daily Morning Mass and Nightly Rosary is still being said at Kristo Rai Church at 6:00 am and 7:30 p.m.**Viewing** will be on **Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2010** at 7:30 am to 9:45 am followed by a mass at 10:00 am and burial at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Breakfast will be served at Kristo Rai Church Social Hall during the viewing and Lunch will be served at the families residence at China Town after the burial.

Mesulang, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Olomwaay, Arigato and Thank you all from the bottom of our Hearts.

The Family

Science & Technology

HELP FILE

Computer lost its pep? These may help

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Question: My PC's hard drive seems to be running almost continuously, and I'm wondering what's causing it. Is there software I can use to fix the problem? I used a trial version of one program, but it told me I had 1,500 errors on my hard drive and had to buy the program to fix them. Even then, the company can give me no assurances that its program will solve my problem. What should I do?

Answer: It sounds like someone is trying to scare you into buying disk-cleaning software by listing an unrealistically large number of errors on your hard drive. Before you buy any programs, try these free alternatives.

First, get a free diagnosis. Microsoft explains, at tinyurl.com/optgx2, how you can tell whether your PC is slow because of hardware or software issues. Microsoft also explains how to improve PC efficiency by erasing software you've installed or by using System Restore to return your computer's settings to the way they were a few months ago.

If that doesn't work, try programs that hunt down malicious or junk software on your PC.

You can find AVG Anti-Virus Free Edition at tinyurl.com/yknjwbx. Another free program, Spybot - Search & Destroy, eliminates spyware and adware, and can be found at tinyurl.com/clbek4. Or you can download the free Microsoft Security Essentials (handles both antivirus and antispyware chores) at tinyurl.com/yewgwqn.

If those things don't work, you can find free and for-pay registry cleaner programs at tinyurl.com/ydehzg2. Registry cleaners may be able to speed up a PC's operations by removing old, unused computer code from your PC's registry (a database that contains the settings and options for Windows.) This automated approach is safer than tinkering with the registry yourself, because deleting the wrong thing can cause real problems.

■■■

Q: My Windows XP computer is starting up much more slowly than it should, and I believe it's because too many software applications are starting automatically when the PC is turned on. How can I limit the number of applications that start up when the computer does? Also, where can I find your previous columns?

A: It's fairly easy to reduce the number of programs that begin when you start up Windows XP. Doing so may speed up your PC, both by loading fewer programs and by freeing up RAM those programs use, even while idle. For step-by-step instructions, see tinyurl.com/2pux2a. You can find my previous columns and stories at tinyurl.com/yfx5cgx.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; e-mail: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.

The iPad: Actual size
Battery
Up to 10 hours of battery life; device can sit for a month on standby
The specs
Thickness: 1/2 in. (1.3 cm) about the same as the iPhone
Weight: 1.5 lb. (0.7 kg)
Display: Multitouch screen
Storage: 16GB; 64GB Flash storage
Microchip: Customized Apple chip dubbed the A4
Available in March
Apps
Runs 140,000 apps designed for the iPhone and iPod touch, plus 12 new apps designed for the iPad
iWork
Apple's suite of spread-sheet, word processing and slide presentation programs is updated for iPad's multitouch capabilities
iBooks
An app that lets users buy from Apple's iBookstore, which turns the iPad into a direct competitor to Amazon's Kindle
What it can't do
• Lacks a camera
• Cannot make phone calls
• Not a multitasker; runs only one app at a time
• Battery is not removable
Safari
Can display Web pages like typical personal computers, but doesn't support Flash
E-mail
Touch an e-mail to reply and a nearly full-size touch-screen keyboard appears (Dock with traditional keyboard also available)
Videos
HD movies (720p), YouTube and TV shows will work similar to the iPhone
iPod
Tap on a song to play and listen using built-in speaker or wired, Bluetooth wireless headphones
9.6 in. (24.4 cm)
7.5" (19 cm)
Source: Apple, Gizmodo
Graphic: Karl Kahler, Andrea Maschietto, San Jose Mercury News
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Off the Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Ice from airplane crashes into Nevada home

LAS VEGAS (AP)—A couple was startled when a block of ice that apparently fell from an airplane tore a hole in the roof of their garage and shook their house in a Las Vegas suburb. Penny and Bill White say the chunk of ice that slammed through the roof of their home in Henderson, Nev., on Tuesday morning likely weighed about 30 or 40 pounds. Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Ian Gregor says falling ice from an aircraft descending into McCarran International Airport probably caused the damage. He says he's heard of only four to six similar cases in his jurisdiction in the last three years. Bill White says the ice had gone through his roof tiles and a layer of plywood before shattering on the main gas line.

Man with 21 knives arrested after calling police

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Austin police say a man who called 911 to complain about alleged bank fraud was arrested when he was found with a machete and 20 other knives or blades. Douglas Dockery, 50, was jailed Monday on charges of unlawful carrying of a weapon, plus having prohibited weapons such as a switchblade or knuckles. Police documents indicate Dockery also was held on a warrant out of Bexar (bayr) County. Travis County electronic jail records provided no further details on that case or listed an attorney for Dockery, whose bail was $14,000. Police said Dockery was arrested Saturday night outside a convenience store.

New Zealand virgin auctions herself for tuition

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP)—A New Zealand teenager who says she auctioned her virginity online for $32,000 to raise tuition money did not break any laws but it might be risky for her to follow through on the deal, police warned Wednesday. The anonymous 19-year-old student offered her virginity to the highest bidder on the Web site http://www.ineed.co.nz under the name "Unigirl," saying she would use the money to pay for her tuition. She said in a post that more than 30,000 people had viewed her ad and more than 1,200 had made bids before she accepted an offer of more than New Zealand dollars 45,000 ($32,000). Prostitution is legal in New Zealand. Unigirl, in her initial post, described herself as attractive, fit and healthy.

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From Paris With Love
Friday 4:15 7:25 9:30
Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:25 9:30
Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:25
Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:25
John Travolta, Jonathan Rhys-Meyers
Crime • Rated R
Synopsis
John Travolta and Jonathan Rhys-Meyers star in the spy thriller From Paris With Love for District B13's helmer Pierre Morel and EuropaCorp. The Luc Besson/Adi Hasak-penned tale revolves around the entwining paths of an American spy and an embassy worker during a tumultuous time in Paris.

Edge of Darkness
Friday 4:10 7:30 9:50
Saturday 1:20 4:10 7:30 9:50
Sunday 1:20 4:10 7:30
Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:30
Mel Gibson, Ray Winstone
Mystery • Rated R
Synopsis
Casino Royale's Martin Campbell returns to familiar territory with this adaptation of his own 1985 BBC miniseries—a mystery starring Mel Gibson as a detective looking into his political-activist daughter's death and uncovering layers of governmental conspiracies in the process. William Monahan (The Departed) provides the screenplay for the GK Films production, co-starring Ray Winstone and Danny Huston.

The Tooth Fairy
Friday 4:00 7:00 9:45
Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:45
Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00
Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00
Dwayne Johnson, Ashley Judd
Comedy Drama • Rated PG
Synopsis
20th Century Fox presents this family comedy following a star hockey player's (Dwayne Johnson) temporary transformation into a full-fledged tooth fairy as penalty for discouraging a young fan. Director Michael Lembeck (The Santa Clause 2 and 3) helms the family comedy, based on a screenplay by veteran comedic writers Lowell Ganz and Babaloo Mandel, with additional writing provided by Joshua Sternin and Jeffrey Ventimilia. Ashley Judd and Julie Andrews co-star in the Blumhouse and Mayhem Pictures production.

I Love You, Goodbye
Friday 4:05 7:05 9:55
Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:55
Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05
Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05
Derek Ramsay, Angelica Panganiban
Romance, Drama • Rated NR

The Spy Next Door
Friday 4:30 7:20 9:35
Saturday 1:10 4:30 7:20 9:35
Sunday 1:10 4:30 7:20
Mon thru Thurs 4:30 7:20
Jackie Chan, George Lopez
Comedy • Rated PG

The Book of Eli
Friday 4:20 7:10 9:40
Saturday 1:30 4:20 7:10 9:40
Sunday 1:30 4:20 7:10
Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:10
Denzel Washington, Gary Oldman
Action • Rated R

Avatar
Friday 3:55 6:55 10:00
Saturday 12:50 3:55 6:55 10:00
Sunday 12:50 3:55 6:55
Mon thru Thurs 3:55 6:55
Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana
Science Fiction • Rated PG 13

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Life & Style

Trip down memory lane turns into a bumpy ride

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: Our oldest daughter is being married soon. When we pulled out our wedding album to show her our pictures, my mother-in-law, "Edith," started laughing and said she hoped our daughter's wedding would be better than ours was. Then she said our wedding had been "an embarrassment," and she wished she hadn't invited any of her friends to it!

Abby, her son and I have been married more than 25 years. This was the first time Edith has ever mentioned my "awful" wedding. My father-in-law tried to shut her up, but she went on and on about how she should have stepped in and "helped."

My husband and I think his mother should apologize, but she says we are being "too sensitive." My daughter is upset about it too.

We want Edith to be a part of our daughter's wedding and festivities, but what kind of role should I allow her to have? I'm still angry and very, very hurt.

MOTHER OF THE BRIDE IN MISSISSIPPI

DEAR MOTHER OF THE BRIDE: Could your mother-in-law have had one too many when she came out with her insensitive and rude revelation? Face it, had she truly wanted to "help," it would have been as simple as her volunteering to do so.

While an apology should be forthcoming, don't expect one. In labeling you "too sensitive," Edith was blaming the person whose face she had slapped for reacting.

While your wish to have her be a part of your daughter's wedding is laudable, the role I strongly recommend she play would be a nonspeaking one such as providing "something old, something new, something borrowed or something blue." PERIOD.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My older brother, "Gabe," 51, lives in another state. He calls me and my other brother often, asking our advice and opinions on everything—work, parenting and his relationships. His current relationship is like all the others have been. He either picks the wrong person or he IS the wrong person.

What concerns me is that after torturing my brother and me for hours at a time, Gabe then calls our 70-year-old mother. He subjects her to long, circular conversations and never takes any of our advice.

Despite our requests for him to stop burdening us all, especially Mom, Gabe persists. Mom is losing sleep, and she's very upset because Gabe is unhappy and because he talks to her long into the night. She doesn't want to hurt his feelings, but she's reached her limit.

Gabe sought professional help a few years ago, when he was having the same problem with a different woman. After three years of therapy his therapist—a priest—refused to treat him because it seemed like Gabe wasn't listening.

What can Mom do to get some peace but spare his feelings? I believe my brother has an emotional disorder, but he refuses to get help or take medication.

OVERWHELMED IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR OVERWHELMED: Gabe may indeed have an emotional problem. He may also be self-centered and in love with the sound of his own voice.

You and your brother need to impress upon your mother that her health must come first. And she needs to impress upon Gabe that her bedtime is (blank) p.m. and she will not stay up beyond that time. If necessary, she should unplug her phone to make sure her sleep isn't interrupted.

As long as Gabe has you, your brother and your mother to drain to the point of exhaustion, I hope you realize he won't seek the professional help he needs, so all of you need to finally draw the line.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby—Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

'Avatar' tops $600M, beats 'Titanic' domestic haul

James Cameron's "Avatar" has sailed past his blockbuster "Titanic" to become No. 1 on the all-time domestic box-office chart.

"Avatar" climbed to $601.1 million domestically on Tuesday, putting it a fraction ahead of the $600.8 million haul for "Titanic."

With more than $2 billion worldwide, Cameron's sci-fi sensation shattered the global box-office record of $1.84 billion held by "Titanic" last week.

"When some said to us, 'How is it going to feel to knock off 'Titanic'? I think our response was, 'It's about time those guys got knocked off their perch,'" said Cameron's producing partner Jon Landau on Tuesday, after "Avatar" tied for the lead at the Academy Awards with nine nominations, including best picture.

"Lightning is not supposed to strike twice. And it has. And it's a pinch-me moment when you sit there and you hear that we're going to break another record. It's beyond anything that we could have imagined," he said.

Landau said he, Cameron and their collaborators have discussed sequel prospects but that nothing definite has been decided. Just before the release of "Avatar" in December, writer-director Cameron said he had the "broad strokes for two more films."

"This is set up to be a potential franchise," Cameron had said in December. "It's not like I've got scripts two and three teed up, ready to go, and I want to start at the end of January. But it's definitely part of the game plan."

"Avatar" still has plenty of box-office life left. It passed $600 million domestically on its 47th day of release. Back in 1998, "Titanic" was at barely half that amount—$311 million—after its 47th day in theaters.

Factoring in today's higher admission prices, "Titanic" still has sold more tickets than "Avatar."

Adjusted for inflation, classics such as "Gone With the Wind," "Star Wars" and "The Sound of Music" still top the charts for most tickets sold.

Landau, a producer on both "Titanic" and "Avatar," said he does not buy into inflation-adjusted box-office rankings, adding that "every movie has to stand in its own time."

"'Gone With the Wind' didn't have to compete with television. 'Star Wars' didn't have to compete with DVDs. 'Titanic' didn't have to compete with Blu-rays and satellite. So I think every film has to compete on its own merits," Landau said.

"The inflation argument, I find it funny when people raise it, 'cause I never heard them raising it when they talk about budget and cost to the movie. But they love to do it when it comes to box office," he said. ***(AP)***

RECORD BID AP

Auctioneer Henry Wyndam sells the sculpture 'Walking Man I' or 'L'Homme qui marche I', by Alberto Giacometti, at Sotheby's auction rooms in London, Wednesday Feb. 3, 2010. The life-size bronze sculpture was sold for 65 million pounds ($104.3 million)—a world record for the most expensive work of art ever sold at auction. It took just eight minutes of furious bidding for about 10 bidders to reach the hammer price for "L'Homme Qui Marche I," which opened at 12 million pounds, Sotheby's said. The sculpture by the 20th century Swiss artist, considered an iconic Giacometti work as well as one of the most recognizable images of modern art, was sold to an anonymous bidder by telephone. Sotheby's had estimated the work would sell for between 12 to 18 million pounds.

Source: Jackson's doc to be arraigned on Friday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lawyers for Michael Jackson's doctor met Wednesday to discuss their client's defense strategy in the event he's charged in the death of the singer.

Dr. Conrad Murray and his legal team had received no word from prosecutors about a decision from the district attorney but lead attorney Ed Chernoff said his client was ready to surrender to authorities in the event a charge is filed.

"We are prepared for whatever occurs," Chernoff said. "We have time to meet and strategize for possible scenarios, but in reality we've had eight months to do that."

The arrival of Murray and Chernoff in recent days from Houston led to a new round of speculation that a charge could be announced this week. District Attorney's spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said she had no word on when any developments were likely.

Chernoff was waiting for news in a Los Angeles-area hotel, while Murray was at a friend's house in Santa Monica, where a crowd of paparazzi was waiting outside.

"There's no joy in representing someone who shouldn't be charged in the first place," Chernoff said. "There's some truth to the proposition that the waiting is the hardest part."

Two law enforcement officials have told The Associated Press that prosecutors are going to charge Murray with involuntary manslaughter but gave no timetable on when that would happen. Both officials requested anonymity because they are not authorized to publicly discuss the case.

Leif Garrett booked for having heroin in LA subway

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Former 1970s teen idol Leif Garrett has been released from jail on a charge he carried heroin into a Los Angeles subway station. Los Angeles County sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore says the actor and singer was arrested late Monday for heroin possession and released on bond Wednesday.

Whitmore says the 48-year-old was shaking and sweating.

Whitmore says Garrett denied having drugs at first and allowed them to search him, then acknowledged that he had black tar heroin in his shoe.

Garrett has a history of drug use, including a 2006 arrest at another Los Angeles subway stop for having heroin.

He is due back in court Feb. 24.

It was not immediately clear if Garrett had an attorney.

Garrett

Wife: SC gov didn't want fidelity in marriage vows

CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)—South Carolina's first lady says her wedding was a "leap of faith" because Gov. Mark Sanford, who famously cheated on her with a woman he described as his soul mate, did not want to include a vow of fidelity in their marriage ceremony.

Jenny Sanford also tells ABC's Barbara Walters in an interview airing Friday on "20/20" that the final blow to the marriage was the publication of racy e-mails between Sanford and his Argentine mistress.

The show released excerpts of Sanford's interview with Walters, which coincides with publication Friday of her memoir, "Staying True."

Sanford

Not having a vow of faithfulness "bothered me to some extent, but ... we were very young, we were in love," Jenny Sanford tells Walters. "I questioned it, but I got past it."

In her memoir, a copy of which The Associated Press obtained Tuesday, Sanford writes that her groom was worried "in some nagging way" that he might not be able to remain true.

"With the benefit of the knowledge I have about Mark now, I could point to this moment as a clear sign of things to come," she writes. But at the time, she found his honesty "brave and sweet" and thought he just had cold feet.

Jenny Sanford tells Walters in the interview that the e-mails where her husband talked about his lover's body parts were not something anyone would want their children to read on the Internet. They were published last year by The State newspaper in Columbia and appeared online the same day the governor returned from a five-day absence and held a tearful Statehouse news conference to admit his affair.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

WHAP!
DID YOU THROW THAT?!?
THROW WHAT?
LET ME SEE YOUR MITTENS! THERE, LOOK! FLECKS OF BARK, PIECES OF GRAVEL, SPOTS OF MUD, AND GRANULES OF ICE! THAT WAS YOUR SNOWBALL, ALL RIGHT!
THAT'S THE PROBLEM WITH HAVING A SIGNATURE STYLE.
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
2-5

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY. I'VE GOT ABOUT THREE MORE HOURS OF WORK...
... BUT JUST TWO 'TIL THE KIDS COME HOME. AND JUST A HALF-HOUR 'TIL NICK WAKES UP.
I NEED "A PAUSE BUTTON"...BUT I KNOW THAT'S NOT REALISTIC.
CAN I HAVE A MAGIC WAND FOR MY BIRTHDAY?
HARGELL
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2-5

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

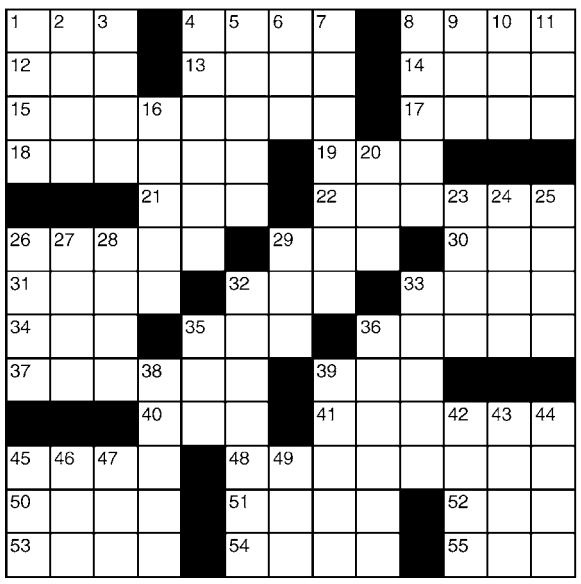
ACROSS
1 Masseur's workplace
4 "Just Dance" singer Lady —
8 Crazy
12 Scepter topper
13 "Zounds!"
14 Stench
15 Ship-repair site
17 Wilder or Hackman
18 Help
19 Inventor Whitney
21 Appomattox surrenderer
22 Caseload
26 Barbershop item
29 Cocoa holder
30 "What'd you say?"
31 Black birds
32 "Great Expectations" lad
33 Poi base
34 B&B
35 Car wash option
36 Benefactor
37 Adulterate
39 Parcel of land
40 Wanted poster abbr.
41 Nervous
45 Spinning noise
48 Paper
50 Car
51 Part of Q.E.D.
52 Fond du —, Wisc.
53 Egg container?
54 Mineo and Maglie
55 Biblical verb suffix

DOWN
1 Pop
2 Paid players
3 Basic education
4 Old Faithful, e.g.
5 Playing marble
6 Needlefish
7 Made sense
8 Spock's specialty
9 Praise in verse
10 Anti
11 Raw rock
16 Narcs' measures
20 Journal
23 Tatar chief
24 Modern-day coin
25 Son of Odin
26 Foray
27 Domini preceder
28 Galvanizing material
29 Blend
32 Processions
33 Clan emblem
35 Stir-fry need
36 Break-room supply
38 Fortune-teller's deck
39 Making all the stops
42 Strike from the text
43 Summertime pest
44 Make a good impression?
45 Pale
46 Shade
47 "— a Wonderful Life"
49 Man-mouse link

Solution time: 25 mins.

O	F	F	S	■	C	O	R	A	■	F	E	E
A	L	O	E	■	A	V	E	R	■	I	D	S
F	I	R	S	T	B	A	S	E	■	R	I	P
S	P	E	A	R	S	■	■	N	A	S	T	Y
■	■	■	M	Y	■	D	E	A	L	T	■	■
B	I	L	E	■	V	I	A	■	B	A	A	S
B	R	A	■	■	E	A	R	■	■	I	L	K
C	A	S	E	■	I	N	N	■	I	D	L	Y
■	■	T	R	A	L	A	■	A	N	■	■	■
F	O	C	A	L	■	■	■	A	S	S	O	R	T
A	H	A	■	L	A	S	T	S	T	R	A	W
N	I	L	■	O	L	I	O	■	E	Z	I	O
S	O	L	■	W	A	R	P	■	P	O	D	S

Yesterday's answer 2-5



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cristiano Ronaldo, 25; Jennifer Jason Leigh, 48; Christopher Guest, 62; Roger Staubach, 68

Happy Birthday: You can expand on some of your more unique ideas and accomplish some of the goals you set aside in the past. The time for change is now and will lead to a better future. Make an effort to help someone you feel will bring something in return and can help you get ahead. Your numbers are 4, 11, 14, 23, 29, 35, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Do whatever it takes to ensure better health, finances and future. People you have worked with in the past will join forces to develop a new project. Expand your interests and make what you do best, count. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Don't give your secrets away. Holding on to what you know may be your only defense if you are challenged. Protect and preserve what you've worked so hard to acquire. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You hold the key to your future and must work hard to make your dreams come true. There is plenty to work with if you open your eyes, use your imagination and strive for perfection. This is not the time to be a follower. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Someone may take advantage of you emotionally if you are too open about your likes and dislikes. Honesty is a good thing but not when it is being used against you. Don't let anyone hold you back. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't let your heart rule your head, especially where partnerships and money are concerned. If someone gives you an ultimatum, it will be your cue to walk away. Don't let a past partnership interfere with what you have or what you want in the future. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You can settle old arguments and finish jobs that you left undone, as long as you do so on your own terms. There is money to be made if you take a practical approach to an idea you have been toying with for some time. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): An unexpected decision that affects your job or the rules and regulations you are used to dealing with, will leave you wondering what to do next. Don't let uncertainty frighten you into making a snap decision that may not suit you later. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take control and work hard to follow through with old projects. You must not give up on something you have already put so much into. Travel, communication and interacting with others will lead to your success. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Get busy instead of hanging around waiting for someone to do the work for you. It's important that you show how industrious you can be. It's your efforts that will impress, not giving orders. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't overload your mind with trivialities. Be concise if you want to get ahead. Mistakes will leave you vulnerable and the time to make unexpected changes that will take others by surprise is now. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Refuse to let others dictate what you can and cannot do. Focus on what counts and what will get you ahead. Now is not the time to slip back into old habits that will set you back and hurt the people who love you. ✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Someone else may have an interesting idea but it probably isn't as good as your own. Invest in yourself. A contract or negotiation will turn in your favor if you hold out for what you want. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You see things differently and can offer unique vision. You are clever, ambitious and willing to make the changes necessary to get things done.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

		2			1			
		6	3		4			
				2			6	4
6	8						9	
		4		1		8		
	9						3	5
8	3			9				
			5		8	6		
			4			7		

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 2/05

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

4	9	3	5	1	8	6	2	7
8	2	5	3	7	6	4	9	1
6	7	1	2	9	4	5	8	3
7	5	2	6	8	9	3	1	4
3	6	8	4	5	1	2	7	9
1	4	9	7	3	2	8	5	6
2	1	6	9	4	5	7	3	8
5	8	7	1	6	3	9	4	2
9	3	4	8	2	7	1	6	5

Difficulty Level ★★★ 2/04

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

MOLIERE **Solution: 8 letters**

E	T	S	I	T	P	A	B	N	A	E	J	P	S	E
N	P	R	T	H	E	A	T	R	E	S	S	S	E	D
I	O	O	E	A	H	E	L	O	C	E	E	E	M	N
E	Q	T	R	S	R	C	S	A	U	C	F	L	M	A
L	U	C	T	H	I	C	R	D	C	R	O	U	E	M
E	E	E	E	D	T	M	O	U	I	A	U	C	F	R
D	L	R	S	R	P	N	S	T	H	F	R	I	C	A
A	I	I	I	A	Y	A	A	C	S	C	B	D	L	C
M	N	D	A	M	V	E	L	S	A	I	E	I	E	A
P	W	S	C	A	E	M	L	A	I	P	R	R	R	D
H	I	E	N	T	I	A	(L)	L	I	M	I	A	M	E
R	V	T	A	I	C	S	R	(A)	O	S	E	N	O	M
A	E	I	R	C	R	T	I	S	(S)	W	S	H	N	I
S	S	R	F	T	A	E	F	F	U	(T)	R	A	T	E
E	S	I	O	E	G	R	U	O	B	A	N	N	E	D

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Academie, Aristocrats, Armande, Banned, Bourgeois, Church, Clermont, Director, Dramatic, Ecole, Farces, Femmes, Fourberies, Francaise, Garcie, Jean-Baptiste, Last, Madeleine, Master, Miser, Palais, Phrase, Poquelin, Pseudonym, Ridicules, Rites, Savantes, Scapin, Success, Tartuffe, Theatre, The Misanthrope, Wives, Yellow

Yesterday's Answer: Crinoline

SALE: The topics of "Wonderword for Kids" appeal to younger fans but the puzzle-difficulty matches what you've come to expect from Wonderword. For a limited time, the book is on sale for just $4 each (U.S. funds only), payable to Universal Uclick. Include $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480.

CLASSIFIED ADS

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Ask for Capt. Carl or Lian

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  Female
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  IR or Green Card holder

Please apply by email to Joon Park at crossroad44@yahoo.co.kr or call 235-2151/2331123

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... $25.00
Call: 233-9889 or 483-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)

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Are you overwhelmed at work?
Has taking care of your kids and the housework become a burden?
LET US MAKE YOUR HOME OR OFFICE
SPARKLE
Cleaning services starting as low as $40 per cleaning.
All equipment and cleaning supplies provided.
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Contact Julie at 287-6542 to schedule an appointment.

"I want to go shopping!"
MAKE-A-WISH
Visit us at 865 S. Marine Dr.,
Orlean Pacific Plaza Ste. 104 Tamuning, Guam 96913
Tel: (671) 649-WISH • Fax: (671) 646-6293
Email: mawfguam@ite.net • www.wish.org
Office Hours: 8:30am-5:30pm, M-F daily
Saipan Tribune

WHATZIT Solution: The plot thickens

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

2 Bedroom Apartment for Rent.
For $230.00 / month
Koblerville, please call 288-0728

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Oceanview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Night-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

DRUNK DRIVING
Over the limit. Under arrest.

The Palms on PauPau Beach, Saipan Micronesia

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
Palms Resort Saipan is seeking an energetic, enthusiastic and experienced individual for the following position:

RECREATION MANAGER

Requirements:
- At least 2-years of College Education
- Must have 2-years of Recreation Manager experienced in the hotel industry.
- Enforce rules and regulations of recreational facilities to maintain discipline and ensure safety.
- Manage the daily operations of recreational facilities.
- Administer first aid according to prescribed procedures, and notify emergency medical personnel when necessary.
- Organize, lead, and promote interest in recreational activities such as arts, crafts, sports, games, camping, and hobbies.
- Greet new arrivals to activities, introducing them to other participants, explaining facility rules, and encouraging participation.
- Confer with management to discuss and resolve participant complaints.
- Explain principles, techniques, and safety procedures to participants in recreational activities, and demonstrate use of materials and equipment.
- Evaluate recreation areas, facilities, and services to determine if they are producing desired results.
- Must be a certified lifeguard.
- Must be a certified CPR.

U.S. CITIZEN/RESIDENTS PREFERRED.
Applications may be picked up and submitted at the Security Office, Monday to Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Palms

Tim Coca-Cola Foremost Subway eat fresh. Glimpses

EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS
JOIN OUR TEAM!!!

Position: Accountant
- Prepares financial statement reports & cost analysis
- Reconciles bank statements
- Prepares tax reports & payroll processing
- Directs the maintenance of general and subsidiary ledgers, accounts receivables, accounts payables, revenue distribution, depreciation, cost, property and operating expenses and insurance records.
- Prepares budgets, control inventories and other related accounting reports.

Requirements:
- At least four (4) years experience in accountancy
- Graduate with Accounting degree from accredited institution preferred
- Excellent Computer literacy is a MUST
- Strong communication skills (fluent English speaking & writing)

Please submit resume with recent photo to:
Human Resources Department
2/F Transpac Business Center, Middle Road, Gualo Rai,
Saipan MP 96950
Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 5:00pm.

OUR GROUP IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date:	Wednesday, January 6, 2010	Closing Date:	Until Filled		
JVA NO.	**Position Title**	**Positions**	**Salary**	**Contract**	**Location**
10-006	Deputy Director for Water Wastewater	[One Position]	Negotiable; Ungraded	Two-year	Water Wastewater, Saipan
Opening Date:	Friday, January 28, 2010	**Closing Date:**	Friday, February 11, 2010		
JVA NO.	**Position Title**	**Positions**	**Salary**	**Contract**	**Location**
10-0014	Water Wastewater Operations Engineer	[One Position]	$55,000-$65.000	Two-year	Water Wastewater, Saipan

For more information about the position(s) being advertised, please stop by the Human Resources Office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220. U.S.A. Tel. Nos. (670) 235-7025 to 32 • Fax (670) 235-5131

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

THE PLOT

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Find today's solution in this section

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

The Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA) is the community-based cancer support organization for the Northern Mariana Islands dedicated to eliminating cancer and saving lives by providing Advocacy, Awareness, Education, Services and HOPE for all its constituents.

CCA is a non-profit organization managed by a 7 member Board of Directors who represents the diversity of the CNMI. CCA's operational funding is fully supported by contributions from corporations, families and individuals.

Position Description: Program Manager
As a Program Manager you will serve as an advocate for the CCA, supporting the CCA's mission and helping the organization better communicate who we are and what we do for the people who need us most. Eligible candidates need qualifications enabling them to fulfill the following key responsibilities:

- Manage budget and comply with stringent guidelines for program services offered to cancer patients and constituents
- Coordinate and collaborate with the Cancer Council of the Pacific Islands CNMI Representative and the CNMI Comprehensive Cancer Control Plan (CCCP) and effectively collaborate with the Program Manager to advocate and further our mission goals
- Develop, manage and grow revenue goals through multiple fundraising events and collateral sales
- Assist the Event Chairperson(s) and participate in efficiently carrying out our signature fundraising event, the "Marianas March Against Cancer", by attending Organization Committee and Team Captain meetings
- Mobilize and coordinate a CNMI community-wide volunteer working committee to implement the CNMI CCCP
- Develop and cultivate community partnerships/relationships and participate in appropriate coalitions
- Prepare/disseminate reports and publications such as an annual report, weekly performance report, bulletins, brochures, flyers, and various other promotional and educational cancer-related materials
- Assertively promote CCA Advocacy, initiatives, education and services to schools, worksites and community leaders to effectively build broad based support for our mission
- Seek monetary and in-kind donations from our business, community, private/public grants and endowments through direct solicitation, grant application and or bartering of goods and services
- Capture and track constituents served from our projects and services
- Comply and demonstrate ability to work within established budgets
- Effectively arrange monthly Board meetings and other work as assigned by the President or his/her designee
- Plan ahead and always anticipate what is wanted and needed and be out in front in seeing that we meet our goals and responsibilities to the community.

Qualifications and Position Requirements:

- AA Degree and/or equivalent combination of education and experience
- Two years experience in sales, event management, customer service or volunteer management
- Demonstrated project management skills with high attention to detail and ability to multi task and delegate
- Demonstrated ability to inspire volunteers
- Strong relationship building skills
- Possess high energy, positive attitude
- Ability to maintain professional demeanor
- Must be a team player who can effectively work and interact with volunteers and the public
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated presentation skills
- Proficient with Microsoft Office Suite more specifically MS Publisher, Adobe Photoshop or comparable software , database and spreadsheet management, e-mail software and internet browsers
- Travel to Rota, Tinian, regional and Stateside may be required and will be funded by CCA as Contracting Party
- Evening and weekend work required

Condition of Employment and Remuneration:

- Independent Contract Agreement - At Will, Exempt Contract Employment
- Contract remuneration $25,000.00 to $32,000.00 per annum depending on qualifications and experience.
- This position requires that you have a 2010 CNMI Business License
- Please submit cover letter and resume by the deadline of February 15, 2010 to: CCA Vice President Bud White, Chairman Selection Committee, at one of the following addresses: bud@whitecoconut.com, FAX: 322-9445 or P.O. Box 5525 CHRB, Saipan MP 96950

P.O. Box 7997 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950 • Telephone: (670) 236-8728/682-0050 • Fax: (670) 236-8728 • www.ccamarianas.org

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 01-2010 (AMENDED)

Opening date: January 21, 2010 **Closing date: February 5, 2010**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancies:

Position: **(1) Comptroller-Saipan**
(1) Deputy Comptroller-Saipan
(1) Assistant Chief of Administration/ Training – Ports Police, Saipan
(1) Assistant Chief of Operations- Ports Police, Saipan
(2) Radio Operator/Weather Observer-Rota

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more that six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 26 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. The deadline for submission of applications is no later than ***4:30 p.m., February 5, 2010.***

Comptroller: A Masters Degree in Accounting or related field from an accredited US college or university with no less than two (2) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional accounting level; Bachelors Degree candidate must posses no less than six (6) years of progressively responsible experience in a professional accounting level of which three (3) years pertain to supervisory experience; Associates Degree candidates must posses eight (8) years of experience in accounting of which three (4) years pertain to supervisory experience. Accounting experience in autonomous agencies and/or a certified public accountant is preferred. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

Deputy Comptroller: Possess A four (4) year degree in accounting, finance or related field from an accredited U.S. college or university with no less than five (6) years of progressively responsible experience in professional accounting, finance or managerial level of which three (2) years pertain to supervisory level. Associates Degree candidates must posses eight (8) years of experience in accounting of which three (4) years pertain to supervisory experience. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

This position is on a fast track for Comptroller. Accordingly emphasis will be given to applicants who have advanced degrees or are CPA candidates.

Ports Police Assistant Chief for Admin./Training: Any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) possess a certificate in Police Science or an AA degree in Police Science or Law Enforcement is desirable from an accredited U.S. college or university with no less than eight (8) years of progressively responsible experience in airport security or law enforcement programs of which four (4) years pertain to supervisory experience. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

Ports Police Assistant Chief for Operations: Any combination equivalent to graduation from high school (or G.E.D.) and AA degree in Police Science, law enforcement or related field from an accredited U.S. college or university with no less than eight (8) years of progressively responsible experience in airport security or law enforcement programs of which four (4) years pertain to supervisory experience. Shall have no record of felony or criminal conviction.

Radio Operator/Weather Observer: Graduation from high school (or G.E.D.). No record of felony or criminal conviction.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing, or may be downloaded by visiting CPA's website at www.cpa.gov.mp. For more information, please contact Ms. Addy C. Manahane by email at acmanahane@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON-GUERRERO
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-10-013

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, is soliciting proposals from qualified engineering firms for the provision of an AutoCad Operator in the office of Water-Wastewater Division, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposal shall address the AutoCad Operator's ability to perform the following essential elements.

1. The operator must provide and use his own AutoCad software of the latest version, and install at CUC provided computer. He must also be knowledgeable and efficient of program extension like adobeacrobat, etc.
2. The operator must be versatile from the lowest release software version to the latest version of AutoCad.
3. Prepare construction plan, drawings, shop drawings from rough schematic sketches with minimum supervision.
4. Perform as-built drawings. Create a computerized file of the existing as-built drawings.
5. Perform site inspections and investigations for development of a concise plan and drawings.
6. Read and interpret plans.
7. Perform associated works as necessary.

Proposals shall be evaluated and ranked based on technical criteria listed below and selection made in accordance with CUC Procurement Regulations.

1. Proficiency of the AutoCad Operator (30%)
2. Experience and familiarity in water-wastewater utilities (45%)
3. Availability (25%)

The Scope-of-Work may be pick-ed up at CUC, Procurement & Supply Office at the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on Government observed holidays.

One (1) original and five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-RFP-10-013, AutoCad Operator for Water-Wastewater Division, Saipan"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **Tuesday, February 09, 2010 at 10 AM** local time (CST). Late submissionsand conditional bids will not be considered.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the interest of the government.

All inquiries should be directed to Robert Lorenz, Water-Wastewater Deputy Director at (670) 235-7025 Ext. 147 and Manny B. Sablan. Purchasing Officer at (670) 235-7025 Ext. 134.

/s/ TIMOTHY CONNOR
Legal Counsel

/s/ ABE UTU MALAE
Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA
Executive Director

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works

2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW 10-RFP-004

DESIGN OF MPLT ADMINISTRATION BUILDING AND TRUST OFFICE, SAIPAN

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through Secretary of Public Works, are soliciting sealed proposals for the **Design of MPLT Administration Building and Trust Office** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marian Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2004. Article 7, "Local Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, is available for this project. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with § 70-30.3-305 of the Procurement Regulations.

The scope of the Work will be available on or after **January 22, 2010** at the DPW, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan. A Non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars **(US$100.00)** is required for each set. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the Scope of Work at the DPW Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill Office. A Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Guaulo Rai Office at **10:00 A.M. on Feb. 10 2010**. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr.**, Director, Technical Services Division, 1353 Mednilla Avenue-Capitol Hill, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 4:30 p.m. local time **Feb. 16, 2010.**

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (resumes and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than twenty five (25) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor or another proposal. However, only subcontractors may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated and scored based on the following criteria:

1. **Qualifications and Experiences (50%).** Professional background and caliber of key staff and personnel and demonstrated technical capability. Current and recently completed projects that substantiate the firm's aptitude for projects of similar size, scope, and requirements. The team must have post-secondary educational design experience either thru an employee, join venture or consultant.

2. **Organization and Capacity (35%).** Capacity of firm and proposed lead designers to fulfill Project requirements within the current workload, including the Project schedule.

3. **Response to RFP (15%).** Quality and completeness of response to the requirements of this RFP.

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"DPW10-RFP-004"** For proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, Feb. 19, 2010. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a Notice of Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to Propose must be received by the Director of Procurement & Supply no later than 1:00 p.m. local time, Feb. 19, 2010 and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670)664-1515, or vial e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country prior to, but not later than, Feb. 19, 2010 and must be received no later than March 02, 2010 (CNMI Time). Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

Discussion shall be conducted with at least three (3) of the responsible proposers who submit proposals determined to be most reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purposes of clarification and to insure full understanding of, and responsiveness to, solicitation requirements. A fee shall be negotiated with the highest qualified Architectural and Engineering firms at a price determined to be fair and reasonable to the Government. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be negotiated with the highest ranking qualified firm, then another firm may be selected in the order of competence and qualifications and negotiations continued until a fair and reasonable price is agreed. Award will be made to the responsible proposer whose proposal is determined to be most advantageous to the CNMI Government taking into consideration price and the evaluation criteria set out in this **RFP**. No other factors or criteria shall be used in the evaluation.

The successful proposer will be subjected to a responsibility determination in compliance with Section 3-301 of the CNMI Regulations.

All responses to this RFP shall take into account all taxes that will be charged to the proposer awarded a contract for this project, including excise tax.

The Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the Government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI Government.

/s/ JOSEPH M. INOS JR.
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement

/s/ PHILLIP MENDIOLA-LONG
MPLT, CHAIRMAN

Rondo leads Celts to 107-102 win over Heat

BOSTON (AP)—Rajon Rondo had 22 points and 14 assists in his second straight outstanding game against the Miami Heat, leading the Boston Celtics to a 107-102 victory Wednesday night.

Rondo hit a 3-pointer at the 24-second buzzer to make it 60-58 early in the third quarter and the Celtics never trailed after that, although Miami stayed close. Boston won its second straight game after losing three in a row, while Miami lost for the fifth time in six games despite 30 points and 13 assists from Dwyane Wade.

The last time the teams met, the Celtics won 112-106 on Jan. 6 after Rondo's layup on a pass from Paul Pierce a split-second before the fourth-quarter buzzer sent the game into overtime. Rondo finished that game with 25 points.

Pierce was on the bench in street clothes for the rematch after spraining his left foot Monday night in a 99-88 win at Washington. Coach Doc Rivers said Pierce, Boston's leading scorer, would miss at least one more game.

Ray Allen scored 23 points, including five three throws in the last 32 seconds, and Kevin Garnett added 14 and a season-high nine assists for Boston. Rafer Alston and Udonis Haslem each scored 15 points for Miami.

The Celtics were leading 97-94 when Tony Allen stripped the ball from Wade near the Miami free throw line with 37 seconds left. He was fouled and made both shots for a 99-94 lead. That forced the Heat to foul and the Celtics scored their last eight points on free throws.

Wade gave the Heat one last chance when his 3-pointer cut Boston's lead to 105-102 with 7 seconds left, but Ray Allen secured the win with two free throws with 4.9 seconds to go.

With the score tied at 74 entering the fourth quarter, the Celtics scored the first five points. They led 82-78 after Wade hit a free throw, then scored the next six points on a short jumper by Rasheed Wallace followed by a dunk and a layup by Kendrick Perkins that gave them the biggest lead of the game, 88-78 with 6:36 to go.

Miami dropped below .500 at 24-25 after the opener of a stretch of eight road games and just one home game.

The Celtics' biggest lead of the first half was seven points. But with the score 39-32 after a 3-pointer by Wallace, Miami cut it to 45-44 on two free throws by Wade. And Michael Beasley tied it at 51 with a 3-pointer with 2.3 seconds to go.

Then Daequan Cook fouled Rondo near midcourt with 0.3 seconds left and the point guard hit two of three shots for a 53-51 halftime lead.

AP

Miami Heat guard Daequan Cook (14) looks for room around the defense of Boston Celtics guards Rajon Rondo (9) and Eddie House (50) during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Boston on Wednesday, Feb. 3, 2010.

Lakers 99, Bobcats 97

At Los Angeles, Andrew Bynum had 17 points and 14 rebounds, Lamar Odom scored 19 points and Phil Jackson became the winningest coach in Lakers history. The Lakers, who returned from an eight-game trip to improve the NBA's best home record to 24-3 with their eighth consecutive victory at Staples Center.

Suns 109, Nuggets 97

At Denver, Amare Stoudemire had 20 points and 17 rebounds, leading the Phoenix Suns over a Denver squad missing Carmelo Anthony.

Thunder 103, Hornets 99

At New Orleans, Kevin Durant scored 30 points, and Russell Westbrook had 26 points, 10 assists and eight rebounds for Oklahoma City. Marcus Thornton scored 22 points for New Orleans before leaving with a lower-back contusion.

Mavericks 110, Warriors 101

At Dallas, Jason Terry had 21 points, Dirk Nowitzki scored nine of his 20 points in the fourth quarter and Dallas extended Golden State's losing streak to seven games. Monta Ellis scored a career-high 46 points.

76ers 106, Bulls 103, OT

At Philadelphia, Elton Brand scored 26 points, and Andre Iguodala had 25 points, eight rebounds and eight assists in Philadelphia's comeback victory.

Raptors 108, Nets 99

At Toronto, Chris Bosh scored 20 points, Sonny Weems set career highs with 14 points and 11 rebounds and Toronto improved to 5-1 in its last six games. Andrea Bargnani added 20 points, and Antoine Wright had a season-high 18.

Knicks 107, Wizards 85

At New York, Nate Robinson scored 23 points, and David Lee had 22 points and 10 rebounds to help New York snap a three-game losing streak. Robinson also had eight assists and six rebounds.

Hawks 103, Clippers 97

At Atlanta, Joe Johnson scored 34 points, Jamal Crawford added 22. Chris Kaman and Eric Gordon each scored 17 points, and Marcus Camby had six points and 20 rebounds for Los Angeles.

Spurs 115, Kings 113

At Sacramento, Calif., George Hill had 23 points and nine assists, and Tim Duncan added 22 points and 13 rebounds.

Colts, Saints show passing now wins in NFL

MIAMI (AP)—In the 1973 Super Bowl, Bob Griese threw a grand total of 11 passes to help the Miami Dolphins complete the NFL's only perfect season.

The sport was more wide open a generation later, when winning quarterback Troy Aikman tossed 23 passes in the 1996 championship game for the Dallas Cowboys. The Baltimore Ravens allowed Trent Dilfer to throw a whopping 25 times when they won the league title in 2001.

Peyton Manning and Drew Brees may surpass those numbers before halftime in Sunday's Super Bowl between the Indianapolis Colts and the New Orleans Saints, because passing wins like never before.

Every 12-year-old fan can recite the NFL's common coaching mantra: Run the ball, control the clock and play good defense. But that longtime model for winning championships may be headed the way of leather helmets.

"The game has changed," former Pittsburgh Steelers coach Bill Cowher says. "It's catered to throwing."

Manning and Brees do it better than anyone else, which is a big reason their teams are in the title game.

Brees set an NFL record with his completion percentage of 70.6, and Manning ranked second at 68.8.

Brees led the league with 34 touchdown passes, and Manning tied Brett Favre for second at 33. Brees ranked first in passing efficiency, and Manning was on pace for an NFL-high 4,800 yards before resting for the playoffs late in the regular season.

Gaudy passing statistics haven't historically translated into winning. Instead, 300-yard games were for losers.

But this year, eight of the league's top 10 teams in passing yardage made the playoffs. Teams reaching the postseason threw more than the league average.

The Colts will play for the title despite ranking a distant 32nd and last in rushing. The Arizona Cardinals also ranked last a year ago when they reached the Super Bowl. No team had previously achieved that dubious feat, according to STATS LLC.

So what happened to the notion of keeping the ball on the ground to win?

"That day has gone," says NFL draft consultant Gil Brandt, who has worked in the league since the 1960s. "If you get 10 carries as a running back now, that's good. And whatever amount teams passed this year, there will be more passing next year."

There are exceptions to every trend, and the surprising New York Jets reached the AFC championship game this season with a rookie quarterback, grinding ground game and stout defense.

"I was pulling for the Jets, because that was old-time football—run the ball and play defense," Cowher says.

"It's not out the window, because the Jets still do it," Pro Football Hall of Fame defensive back Rod Woodson says. "Old-school football—it's kind of crazy even to call it that. But today's game is made to throw the ball."

Woodson and others say one factor is rule changes that protect quarterbacks and receivers.

"The quarterbacks can't get hit. The receivers can't get hit. The guy running over the middle can't get hit," Cowher says.

In addition, there's more emphasis on throwing and catching in high school and college, which improves the skill level in the NFL, Brandt says.

"People have become so sophisticated in the passing game," he says. "A long time ago, a completion percentage of 52 or 53 was pretty good. Now you've got one guy at 70.6 and one at 68.8. And there has been a drastic reduction in interceptions. They're throwing the ball more, and yet there are less interceptions."

Phil Simms finds the numbers misleading and the trend exaggerated. He says short, safe throws pad passing stats, and teams use such plays to control the ball.

"There are some teams in the NFL that will throw 10 to 15 passes a week of 5 yards or less," says Simms, MVP of the 1987 Super Bowl. "It's really just another way of running the ball, instead of dropping back and throwing it like we did in the old days. I could go out there now and throw left-handed and hit 50 percent, because there are so many easy throws."

Others argue this is an era of uncommon talent at quarterback. Saints coach Sean Payton says passing wins today because of those doing the throwing.

"You're seeing quarterback play that's probably as good as this league has ever had," Payton says. "There are a dozen teams that are getting outstanding play at quarterback, and you would go back a long time before you could say that."

Along with Manning, Brees and Favre, there's Tom Brady, Philip Rivers, Matt Schaub, Aaron Rodgers, Ben Roethlisberger, Eli Manning, Donovan McNabb, Tony Romo and newly retired Kurt Warner. That's a dozen.

Peyton Manning's at the head of the class. He won the NFL MVP award for the fourth time this season, and 78 percent of the Colts' yards came through the air.

"Indianapolis is an exception," Cowher says. "I don't think you'll ever find another team that can do what they're doing. I don't think you can use them as a model."

The Saints are more balanced, with 67 percent of their yards via the pass, and they ranked sixth in rushing.

Perhaps that gives them an edge in the Super Bowl. Deion Sanders, for one, believes the path to a championship remains on the ground.

"Both of these teams are going to have to resort to the old model to win this game," Sanders says. "They're going to run the ball. It's got to be a little more balanced. If you see a team with 45 passes and 15 runs, that means that team is losing."

How times change: Prime Time is now old school.

Mickelson accepts apology, won't use wedge

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Phil Mickelson won't be using the Ping Eye2 wedge that led a fellow player to accuse him of "cheating," even though he hopes others will use the controversial club to keep attention on what he calls a ridiculous rule.

"I won't be playing that wedge. My point has been made," Mickelson said Wednesday on the eve of his two-time title defense at Riviera. "But if these governing bodies cannot get together to fix this loophole, if players stop using this wedge—which would stop the pressure of the issue—then I will relook at it and put the wedge back in play."

The Ping wedge has grooves that no longer conform under a new USGA regulation, adopted by the PGA Tour. However, any Ping wedge made before April 1, 1990, is approved for play under a legal settlement from two decades ago.

Mickelson is among five players who have used the Ping wedge in competition this year.

Several players believe using the club goes against the spirit of the new grooves regulation, although Scott McCarron fueled the debate when he said of Mickelson and others, "It's cheating."

Mickelson hinted at legal action after saying he was "publicly slandered." He said McCarron offered him a sincere apology on Tuesday night, which he accepted.

"We all make mistakes, and we all say things we wish we could take back," Mickelson said. "I've done it a bunch in my career. And the fact that it's also not easy to come up and face that person, look them in the eye and apologize ... I appreciate him being a big enough man to do that."

Instead, Mickelson vented his anger at the USGA and its lack of transparency in developing the new rules for grooves. He has complained that his submitted wedges that fit the guidelines, only for the USGA to reject the club for violating the intent of the new rule.

"I've very upset with the way the rule came about, the way one man essentially can approve or not approve a golf club based on his own personal decision, regardless of what the rule says," Mickelson said. "This has got to change."

The next step remains murky.

PGA Tour commissioner Tim Finchem met with players on Tuesday night and conceded that tour officials did not realize a Ping wedge from 20 years ago would become such a big issue.

Finchem said the Ping Eye2 wedge produces spin at about 60 percent of the rate from last year's wedges, but about 10 percent more than wedges approved for competition this year.

"The assumption was made last year that very few, if any, players would use that club because they're 20 years old," Finchem said. "I think we underestimated that a little bit."

He said the tour could either do nothing and monitor how many players used wedges, an option that seemed unlikely because Finchem said it still raised issues over fairness in competition. Some players are going to eBay to find the clubs, as Ping stopped making them and now only can confirm through serial numbers when the wedges were made.

The other option is to work out an agreement with Ping chairman and CEO John Solheim. He said Solheim was to meet with the USGA over the next few weeks, and "I can only hope progress is made in that regard."

Ping plays the biggest role in any solution because of its lawsuits against the USGA and PGA Tour over square grooves.

Finchem said the third option involved a complicated process in which the tour's independent committee on equipment tries to establish a local rule. He called that a "cumbersome process."

Any solution could be weeks, if not months, away.

In the meantime, Mickelson said he would not use the wedge at the Northern Trust Open, even though he's hopeful others will.

"If there's no pressure among these organizations to make changes, I will immediately put the club back in play," Mickelson said.

Source: Tigers, Verlander agree to $80M deal

Justin Verlander and the Detroit Tigers have agreed to an $80 million, five-year contract, a person familiar with the negotiations told The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Wednesday night because the deal had not been announced. The person said the contract could be completed as soon as Thursday.

Verlander won a career-high 19 games with a career-best 3.45 ERA last season. He is 65-43 with a 3.92 ERA in four full seasons with the Tigers.

The sides agreed to bypass salary arbitration. When figures were exchanged last month, Verlander asked for $9.5 million for next season and the team offered $6.9 million.

Verlander ended up securing a more lucrative contract than Felix Hernandez. The Seattle Mariners gave their ace a $78 million, five-year deal. Verlander turns 27 this month and Hernandez, who is 58-41 with a 3.45 ERA, will be 24 in April.

Verlander made $3,675,000 last season.

Detroit's decision to keep Verlander with a long-term deal backs up the franchise's claim that it is still committed to spending money to stay competitive.

The Tigers traded popular outfielder Curtis Granderson and All-Star pitcher Edwin Jackson for younger, cheaper players. They also let second baseman Placido Polanco along with relievers Fernando Rodney and Brandon Lyon leave in free agency.

Detroit did, though, instill some hope for this season when it landed closer Jose Valverde with a $14 million, two-year deal.

Even if the Tigers are done reshaping their roster, they'll be able to appease at least some fans by keeping Verlander under contract for at least five more years. With the new deal, they won't risk losing him in free agency after the 2011 season.

The hard-throwing Verlander is the only pitcher in baseball history to toss a no-hitter, start a World Series game, be a Rookie of the Year and an All-Star in his first two full seasons.

Detroit drafted Verlander with the second pick of the 2004 amateur draft and signed him just before losing his rights.

He dominated minor league competition in 2005, compiling an 11-2 record and 1.29 ERA at Class-A Lakeland and Double-A Erie, and fared well in his first full season with the Tigers.

He was 17-9 in 2006—earning AL Rookie of the Year honors—and helped Detroit advance to the World Series for the first time since 1984. He became the first Tigers pitcher to throw a no-hitter since Jack Morris did it during the 1984 championship season.

"When you're hitting your spots at 100 (mph), to be honest, it's going to be a tough day," Milwaukee slugger Prince Fielder said after Verlander's no-hitter. "The guy throws 95 to 100, so you're not looking for a slider, and when he throws it that good for a strike it just kind of buckles you and you have to tip your cap."

Verlander was 18-6 in his second season and made the All-Star team. Only Dwight Gooden, who won 41 games for the New York Mets during the 1984-85 seasons, won more games among pitchers in their first two full seasons since 1970.

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De La Hoya sees Mayweather's route to 2 fights

BOXING

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Oscar De La Hoya thinks his promotions company will soon wrap up a deal for Floyd Mayweather Jr. to fight Sugar Shane Mosley in May.

And after that, De La Hoya still believes Mayweather will meet Manny Pacquiao in the not-too-distant future.

"That fight has to happen," De La Hoya said on Tuesday of Mayweather-Pacquiao, which fell apart this month in a drug-testing dispute. "It's too big not to happen. We just have to cross one hurdle."

De La Hoya weighed in on the state of the welterweight division at a news conference to announce the next fight for Victor Ortiz, one of his junior welterweight proteges. Ortiz will headline the first Fight Night Club show of the new year at the downtown Club Nokia on Feb. 25.

De La Hoya, who runs Golden Boy Promotions with chief executive Richard Schaefer, says Mayweather and Mosley are in negotiations to meet on May 1, likely in Las Vegas. De La Hoya is eager to match Mosley, a Golden Boy partner, with Mayweather, who has been represented by Golden Boy in his recent negotiations.

"The various camps are working extremely hard to make it happen," De La Hoya said. "That's the fight that could really take boxing to another level, because it's two great American fighters meeting each other."

No matter the outcome of that proposed bout, De La Hoya believes Mayweather's path ultimately must cross with Pacquiao, the Filipino pound-for-pound king who will fight Joshua Clottey at Cowboys Stadium in Texas on March 13. Mayweather and Pacquiao were achingly close to a deal this month, but couldn't close a 10-day gap in their preferences for the last session of drug testing before their proposed March 13 bout.

"The public will hopefully make him change his mind," De La Hoya said. "Why would you not want to earn $40 million? Why would you not want to show the public that all this speculation is nonsense? Be the one to stand up and say it."

Although Mayweather dislikes De La Hoya and usually limits his Golden Boy interaction to conversations with Schaefer, De La Hoya is firmly in Mayweather's corner in his apparent quest to bring a higher level of drug testing to boxing.

De La Hoya has fought two opponents who later acknowledged using steroids, beating Fernando Vargas in 2002 and losing a close decision to Mosley in 2003.

"I know where Mayweather is coming from with this," De La Hoya said. "This was a perfect stage to show the world that, hey, us fighters have nothing to hide. ... It's not like hitting a baseball or running a sprint. These are our lives at risk up in the ring."

De La Hoya believes Pacquiao eventually will agree to Mayweather's stringent drug-testing demands. Mayweather is thought to be demanding the same testing procedures for Mosley, who has acknowledging using designer steroids—although claiming he did so unwittingly.

"I believe Mosley will raise his hand and say, 'Take me to the laboratory,'" said De La Hoya, who believes Mosley's protestations of ignorance in his dealings with BALCO. "And I'll be the first to applaud him."

AYUYUS

From Page 36

ahead, 39-2, and the Ayuyus never looked back to improve to a 5-0 mark.

With the loss, the Eagles dropped to a 3-2 record, sharing second place with Saipan Southern High School.

The Rays gained their third win after downing Mt. Carmel on Wednesday, 67-35.

Matt Duenas paced Southern with his 13 points, making nine in the first period to give the Rays an early double-digit lead at the break, 31-19.

Melvin Cadiang opened the second half with a triple and he went on to add six more points to complete Southern's domination of Mt. Carmel.

The Knights remained winless in five games.

Varsity

SSHS 67 – Duenas 13, Benavente 12, Cadiang 12, Fleming 9, Villanueva 8, Pepito 6, Jung 4, Ngeskebei 2.

MCS 35 – T. Taguchi 18, Kautz 6, Sablan 5, Baka 4, Nicholas 2.

Scoring by halves: 31-19, 67-35.

KHS 76 – Maratita 17, Reyes 14, Brel 11, Ogo 10, Faisao 7, Manglona 4, Lisua 4, Norita 4, Hossain 2.

GCA 30 – Jeon 9, Deleon 7, Hong 4, J. Salas 4, Lewis 4, A. Salas 1.

Scoring by halves: 39-2, 76-30.

KHS 56 – Reyes 10, Lisua 10, Maratita 8, Hossain 8, Brel 7, Kaipat 5, Norita 4, Ogo 2, Faisao 2.

MHS 43 – Metran 11, Ano 9, Namelo 6, Sanpemang 6, Rasa 4, Duatin 4, Francisco 2, Manalili 1.

Scoring by halves: 26-15, 56-43.

Junior Varsity

KHS 51 – Talalemoto 26, Mettao 8, Norita 6, Taitano 4, Jones 2, Pineda 2.

MHS 41 – Darag 12, Cenir 9, Caro 6, Limes 6, Lueng 3, Moran 2, Vertudez 1.

Scoring by halves: 23-13, 51-41.

FIBA

From Page 36

2010 Micronesian Games.

This will be Burns' second visit to the CNMI, as he was on Saipan during the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament.

The Aussie became part of FIBA Oceania in 2006 when he was named Australian Youth Ambassador to the Solomon Islands. In 2008, he was asked to be a coach expert in the Federated States of Micronesia and after completing his duty, he returned to the Solomon Islands to continue helping the islands' basketball development program.

The Level 2 accredited basketball coach and Level 1A referee was then named FIBA Oceania zone development officer in 2009.

Burns is a graduate of Bachelor of Applied Science (sports coaching and administration) from Dreakin University and Melbourne and had assisted basketball teams in Australia in various capacities. He was the team manager and tryout coordinator for the U16 Victoria Metro squad that placed first in the National Championship and assisted the Australian National U/22 Men's Basketball Team with video analysis in preparation for the series against New Zealand and the Junior World Championships in 2001.

Burns will be arriving on Saipan with BANMI president Elias Rangamar, who was in Australia for a week to attend a seminar.

The Aussie's first order of business on Saipan is to meet with BANMI's executive board at lunch time and later this afternoon, he will watch games in the MISO caging.

Tomorrow, Burns will meet players trying out for the CNMI Women's Nationals and teams in the junior varsity division of the MISO caging.

Burns' other itinerary includes a visit to Tinian and meeting with the CNMI Men's Nationals hopefuls, PSS Commissioner Rita Sablan, UBA and MISO officials, and BANMI's referees group.

EXTRA

From Page 36

three-run homer.

San Roque exploded for 15 runs at the bottom of the fourth inning and took the game after only four and a half innings, as Go For Broke managed to score only one run at the top of the fifth inning.

San Roque improved to a 5-2 record, while Go For Broke dropped to a 3-6 mark.

Helping Roberts lift San Roque to a win was third baseman Chris Camacho, who tallied four RBIs on a 3-for-4 performances at bat. Center fielder E.J. Tenorio also had his contribution on the team, nailing three RBIs. Tenorio also went 3-for-4 at bat and scored three runs, one triple, and one homer.

Chura 17, Advance 6

Chura had a similar 11-run victory over Advance X-Terminator in the second game of the night.

Pitcher Mel Sakisat and extra hitter David Camacho made three RBIs each for Chura, giving the team its seventh win in nine games. Sakisat went only 2-for-4 at bat, but his three-run homer at the top of the fifth inning helped Chura have a good start.

Chura scored 11 runs in the first inning, as Camacho also hit a three-homer at the top of the first for the team's 11-4 lead.

Advance's four runs at the bottom of the first was the best it could do against Chura, as the former scored only two more runs in the remaining five innings with John Taitano making a solo homer in the second inning and another round-tripper in the fifth.

Blazers 15, Ramblers 13

The Blazers snapped their two-game losing skid after thwarting Ramblers, 15-13.

The Blazers used an eight-run top of the third inning as cushion to improve to an even 4-4 mark. The eventual winners trailed, 2-5, after two complete innings when Jess Taitano's three-run homer sparked Blazers' rally and put the team in the lead, 10-6.

Ramblers tried to regain the lead and steal the win at the bottom of the seventh inning, but fell short when Ben Falig flied out to centerfield for the third out.

The Blazers drew two RBIs each from Ralph Magofna, Joe Taitano, and Ray Bosil to end their losing skid.

SUPERLESS

From Page 36

started to talk about the game, I told them to shut up. I drove my car with the radio off. That evening in my Capitol Hill house I sat down in front of the television with cold beer in hand, excited beyond imagination that I was going to see the Super Bowl good as live since I didn't know the result. We didn't get live sports then so it was quite the treat.

At the scheduled time, the game came on. The first thing we saw was the final score: Pittsburgh 31 Los Angeles 19. The operator had failed to rewind the tape. That was the last time I got excited about watching the Super Bowl on Saipan.

Also since I have to work that day, I cannot drink beer and really enjoy the game. Hard for me to get excited any Monday morning period.

The game seldom lives up to the hype, the last two being notable exceptions with fantastic finishes. Three years ago Rex Grossman did not have a chance of beating Peyton Manning. Drew Brees does.

Reggie Bush I think is the key player. If he is the best player on the field, Saints win. If the defense stops him, Colts win.

If I were to make a prediction on who will win the Super Bowl Monday, I would have a 50 percent chance of being right. I have no idea, no favorite, only hope for super games from Devery Henderson, Dallas Clark, and the Colts defense to hold onto my six point first place lead in our fantasy football league.

And I also hope Matt Stover sprains his ankle before the game so that Adam Vinatieri who is on my fantasy roster kicks for the Colts. That's what fantasy sports does—defines not only who but also what you cheer for. I want the Colts defense to return an interception for a touchdown. I want Henderson to blow by the secondary and torch the Colts defense.

Now if I do win our league championship, it will be truly Super Monday. But if Donald Brown, Lance Moore, Pierre Garcon, Lionel Hamilton, and Garrett Hartley who are on the team chasing me do better than my guys, then truly for me it will be Superless Monday.

At least I don't have to worry about Marianas Cablevision rewinding the tape.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	31	16	.660	–
Toronto	27	23	.540	5 1/2
New York	19	29	.396	12 1/2
Philadelphia	17	31	.354	14 1/2
New Jersey	4	44	.083	27 1/2

Southeast Division

Orlando	33	16	.673	–
Atlanta	31	17	.646	1 1/2
Charlotte	24	24	.500	8 1/2
Miami	24	25	.490	9
Washington	16	32	.333	16 1/2

Central Division

Cleveland	39	11	.780	–
Chicago	23	24	.489	14 1/2
Milwaukee	21	26	.447	16 1/2
Indiana	17	32	.347	21 1/2
Detroit	16	31	.340	21 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

Dallas	31	18	.633	–
San Antonio	28	19	.596	2
Houston	26	22	.542	4 1/2
Memphis	26	22	.542	4 1/2
New Orleans	26	23	.531	5

Northwest Division

Denver	33	16	.673	–
Utah	30	18	.625	2 1/2
Oklahoma City	28	21	.571	5
Portland	29	22	.569	5
Minnesota	11	38	.224	22

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	38	12	.760	–
Phoenix	30	21	.588	8 1/2
L.A. Clippers	21	28	.429	16 1/2
Sacramento	16	32	.333	21
Golden State	13	35	.271	24

Yesterday's Games

Atlanta 103, L.A. Clippers 97
Toronto 108, New Jersey 99
Philadelphia 106, Chicago 103, OT
New York 107, Washington 85
Oklahoma City 103, New Orleans 99
Boston 107, Miami 102
Dallas 110, Golden State 101
Utah 118, Portland 105
San Antonio 115, Sacramento 113
L.A. Lakers 99, Charlotte 97
Phoenix 109, Denver 97

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Anthony, DEN	38	384	327	1130	29.7
Durant, OKC	47	462	400	1392	29.6
James, CLE	49	489	376	1443	29.4
Bryant, LAL	49	514	295	1388	28.3
Wade, MIA	48	454	336	1295	27.0
Ellis, GOL	44	448	205	1137	25.8
Nowitzki, DAL	47	423	309	1184	25.2
Bosh, TOR	48	409	330	1154	24.0
Roy, POR	40	328	213	924	23.1
Johnson, ATL	46	388	129	984	21.4
Jamison, WAS	38	301	146	804	21.2
Randolph, MEM	47	395	193	989	21.0
Stoudemire, PHX	50	395	260	1050	21.0
Maggette, GOL	45	296	332	933	20.7
Evans, SAC	42	312	214	859	20.5
Jackson, CHA	47	348	191	955	20.3
Kaman, LAC	41	345	138	828	20.2
Gay, MEM	45	341	181	900	20.0
Duncan, SAN	43	333	183	849	19.7
Rose, CHI	45	376	131	887	19.7

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Perkins, BOS	212	339	.625
Howard, ORL	275	459	.599
Gasol, MEM	261	436	.599
Hilario, DEN	254	436	.583
Horford, ATL	257	453	.567
Bynum, LAL	291	513	.567
Millsap, UTA	215	383	.561
O'Neal, CLE	200	359	.557
Haywood, WAS	177	318	.557
Lee, NYK	387	701	.552

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Howard, ORL	48	175	466	641	13.4
Noah, CHI	44	171	367	538	12.2
Camby, LAC	46	145	406	551	12.0
Randolph, MEM	47	210	341	551	11.7
Lee, NYK	47	118	422	540	11.5
Bosh, TOR	48	146	402	548	11.4
Wallace, CHA	46	95	410	505	11.0
Duncan, SAN	43	141	320	461	10.7
Boozer, UTA	45	86	396	482	10.7
Haywood, WAS	46	192	286	478	10.4

Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Paul, NOR	38	424	11.2
Nash, PHX	50	556	11.1
Rondo, BOS	45	437	9.7
Williams, UTA	42	406	9.7
Kidd, DAL	47	432	9.2
James, CLE	49	394	8.0
B. Davis, LAC	47	374	8.0
Westbrook, OKC	47	346	7.4
Arenas, WAS	32	230	7.2
Duhon, NYK	47	298	6.3

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

BUDWEISER SOFTBALL STANDINGS

Natibu	8	0
Island Rebels	7	0
Man Amigos	8	1
Chura	7	1
SaiPal	7	2
Freedom Air Flyers	6	2
Ur Balls	5	2
San Roque	5	2
Blazers	4	4
Hitz	4	3
6-Pack	4	4
Red Eye	3	5
Calikano-Falcons	3	5
Go For Broke	3	6
G-Ballers	2	7
Ramblers	2	8
Berdax	1	5
Team Familia	1	6
Lancheros	1	6
X-Terminators	1	7
Team Fuegu	1	7

Northern Passage course explained

Here's a detailed explanation for riders who will be competing in the 2010 Northern Passage tomorrow.

Saturday's race will have three courses: full, sport, and rookie. All courses will start and end at the upper terrace parking lot at the Palms Resort Saipan

At the start of the full course, riders will turn right to Marianas Resort and Spa until reaching the T-intersection. Then participants will turn right to the coral road near the 1,000,000 gallon water tank, make a left turn to another coral road and continue past the FEBC road until reaching one more T-intersection, leading to the right side of a paved road.

From the paved road, riders will make a climb, turn to Kimikaze Trail, then to the paved road, leading to Autobahn Trail, and hit another paved road, leading to Santa Claus lane. From Santa Clause, participants will enter a T-intersection, turn right toward Cowtown, past the raceway then to Banzai Cliff. Riders' next route will be another paved road to one more T-intersection, leading to the Last Command Post.

From the Last Command Post, riders will turn left at the FEBC road, continue past FEBC to the T-intersection (top of the hill), then turn right to coral road, the T-intersection near the 1,000,000 gallon tank until reaching back to the starting line.

The short course will be a bit similar to the full course, but riders need not to climb and make a left turn to FEBC road after making it to the Last Command Post. From the Last Command Post, participants will continue along the paved road and turn right to Palms Resort.

In the rookie course, from the starting line riders will head right to the Marianas Resort, stay right until reaching the T-intersection, turn right to coral road, continue to T-intersection (near the 1,000,000 gallon tank), turn left to coral road, turn left to FEBC road and continue to T-intersection heading back to the paved load and then to Palms Resort.

Cones will be on the road to guide riders. A course briefing will also be held before the start of the race. Registration will start at 6am, while the mountain bike race will kick off at 7am. Entry fee is $20.

Cash prizes will be given to the top finishers in the full course with the first placer in the men's and women's divisions receiving $100 each, a one-night stay at Palms Resort with breakfast for two, and medals. Runners-up will get a free 90-day membership to Palms Resort and medals, while third finishers will win dinner certificates for two at the Palms and medals.

Medals will also be awarded to the Top 3 finishers in the sport and rookie courses and in the youth division (girls and boys).

All participants are also eligible to win Michelob Ultra's new trek mountain bike, which will be raffled off during the presentation of prizes. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Bikers, seen here during the 2009 Hell of the Marianas Century Race, will head north tomorrow for the 2010 Northern Passage.

Saipan Marathon set for March 6

All is set for the 2010 Saipan Marathon on March 6 which takes place along the spine of the capital of the Northern Marianas.

The major event, sponsored by the Marianas Visitors Authority, includes a full marathon (26.2 miles/42.195 kilometers), a half marathon (13.1 miles/21.1 km), and a fun run of 10 km (6.2 miles).

Each run includes five age divisions—19 and under, 20-29; 30-39; 40-49; and 50-and-up. The top male and top female finisher in the full marathon will each receive $1,000.

Entrance fee for the full marathon is $55, with $45 for the half marathon and fun run. Contestants who sign up before 5pm on Feb. 5 avoid a late fee of $10. After Feb. 5, registration for the full marathon will be $65, with $55 for the half marathon and fun run. Final day for all registrations will be Feb. 25 at 5pm. Registration is at the MVA office on Beach Road.

Last year this race was attempted by 655 runners from Japan, Korea, Guam, and the CNMI. MVA estimates that total participation this year will top 1,000.

It's easy to understand why the race is so popular. The course is superior to the Hawaii marathon, offering runners plentiful ocean views as well as experiencing the other advantages of the Northern Marianas.

"MVA is happy to organize this popular annual race," said MVA managing director Perry Tenorio. "It's a very attractive course for the participants, and the Northern Mariana Islands are close to Asia, with easy access. Plus runners only need to pack their shoes—these racers don't incur the costs of shipping equipment or other sporting gear. We look forward to welcoming all our visiting athletes and making this an unforgettable event for them and our home-grown contestants."

Organizers are targeting to expand the number of participants in order to compete with the Hawaii and Hong Kong marathons. This year, the anticipated increased media coverage will reflect the growth of the marathon.

For more information about the Saipan Marathon, contact Kurt Barnes at 235-5853 or kurtproa@yahoo.com or MVA's Ed Diaz at 664-3200/01 or ediaz@mymarianas.com.

One week later on March 13 the 9th Annual XTERRA Saipan Championship will take place. The XTERRA is an extreme triathlon challenge that includes a 1.5-km swim, a 12-km trail run, and a 30-km mountain bike race.

On March 20, the annual Tagaman Triathlon features a 2-km swim, a 60-km bike ride, and a 15-km run. Cash prizes are given for top six male and female finishers as well as trophies to age group winners.

For more information about any of these activities, contact MVA's Frank Tudela at 664-3200 or ftudela@mymarianas.com. ***(PR)***

A participant in the 2009 Saipan Marathon passes a historic World War II tank, one of the historical and scenic sites along the course. The 2010 Saipan Marathon, as well as a half-marathon and 10K fun run, will be held on March 6.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Junior golfer grabs RGA January Ace

Junior golfer Jun Yi Piao seized the RGA January Ace away from Ulysis Kapileo after ruling Refaluwasch Golf Association's second tournament of the month on Sunday at Coral Ocean Point.

Piao carded a net 65, to eclipse the net 68 Kapileo set during the RGA qualifying tournament two weeks ago. Kapileo also joined last weekend's tournament, but tallied a net 73, as he 14 other RGA members bowed to the 17-year-old Piao.

The 15-handicapper Piao recorded the second best gross score from the front nine with his 3-over par 39 and then drilled a 5-over par 41 on the back for a gross 80. Asterio Tawanpiy had the best score in the first nine holes, logging a 2-over par 38.

The junior golfer won Sunday's tournament by four strokes against Ed Tenorio and Nick Guerrero. The 12-handicapper Tenorio had a 39 and 42 on the front and back nines, respectively, for a gross 81, while the 24-handicapper Guerrero fired a gross 39, built on a 48 on the front and 45 on the back.

Other RGA members who joined the January Ace tournament—with their net scores in parentheses—were Joe Saures (81), Martin Ada (75), Jesse Seman (701), Tars Olopai (70), Tawanpiy (70), Emory Kaipat (79), Tom Camacho (74), Joe Wabol (86), Tom Tebuteb (74), Ed Kapileo (75), Jess Wabol (76), and Carl Hocog (74).

Kaipat and Tawanpiy won the closest to the pin contests on holes No. 11 and 7, respectively.

Meanwhile, RGA would like to thank Tenorio, Guerrero, Kapileo, Kaipat, and Wabol for hosting a banquet after the weekend tournament.

RGA is also reminding members that the February qualifying tournament will be held on Feb. 13 at the Kingfisher Golf Links. Other details of the qualifier will be announced later.

RGA added it is still open for membership. The annual membership fee is only $25.

For more information, contact Dwayne Stephens at 664-9041. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Grass volleyball tourney for youth

Northern Marianas Islands Volleyball Association will be holding a grass volleyball tournament for youth tomorrow on the Navy Hill field.

The one-day event will have a two-person reverse co-ed format where a team is composed of one male and one female player. The catch is the female member can hit the ball from all parts of the court, but the male one is prohibited from making a spike inside the 10-foot line and blocking the ball.

The tournament is open to players in the 14 to 17 age group. Games will be played from 9am to 5pm. Entrance fee is $5 per player.

For more information, contact Mili Saiki at milisaiki@hotmail.com. ***(PR)***

Bruce Berline in action in last year's adults grass volleyball tournament, which will hit the Navy Hill field anew tomorrow, but will feature youth spikers.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Rondo leads Celts to 107-102 win over Heat

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Ayuyus keep clean slate

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Kagman High School boosted its bid for a perfect record in the regular season in the 2010 MISO Basketball League, following the Ayuyus consecutive wins over Marianas High School and Grace Christian Academy.

Kagman met the varsity division defending champions Dolphins for the first time on Friday at the MHS Gymnasium and nailed a 56-43 win for the Ayuyus fourth triumph in as many games. On Monday, Kagman collided with the Eagles for the second time and made a repeat of their first round win via a 75-30 rout.

The twin wins improved the Ayuyus' record to 5-0, three games away from sweeping the double-round robin regular season.

In the rematch of last year's finals, Kagman led the Dolphins from start to finish behind team captain Ryan Lisua and Dominic Reyes. Lisua and Reyes top-scored for the Ayuyus with 10 points apiece.

Kagman led at the half, 26-15, with Reyes and Lisua combining for 11 points and six of their teammates contributing at least one field goal apiece.

In the second half, Lisua and Reyes continued to lead the Ayuyus' offense, keeping the team's double-digit advantage.

Against the depleted crew of GCA, Kagman walked away with an even easier victory.

The Eagles played without one of their top scorers, Luther Taylor, allowing Kagman to break the game wide open.

Sans Taylor, the Eagles scored only two points on Michael Hong's free throws. By hafltime, Kagman was way

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Kagman High School's Jimmy Brel goes for a shot against two Southern defenders during their meeting in the first round of the MISO caging at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

FIBA Oceania development officer visits CNMI

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

FIBA Oceania development officer Ryan Burns will arrive on Saipan today to conduct a series of clinics for two weeks.

In an e-mail to *Saipan Tribune*, Gabriel White of Basketball Association of Northern Mariana Islands said Burns will be staying on Saipan from Feb. 5 to 18 to conduct clinics for public and private schools and basketball league organizers. Burns will also work with local coaches and players and assist the CNMI National Men's and Women's squads in their preparation for the

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

FIBA Oceania zone development officer Ryan Burns, second right, seen here posing with volunteers of the 2009 FIBA Oceania Basketball Tournament, will return to the CNMI to conduct a series of clinics.

Extra hitter lifts San Roque to win

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Extra hitter Larry Roberts made the most of his trip at the plate, blasting two homers to lead San Roque to an easy 25-14 victory over Go For Broke in Chamolinian Softball Association's 2009 Budweiser Slow-pitch Softball League on Wednesday night at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

Roberts went 2-for-3 at bat, scored two runs, and made five RBIs. He had a two-run homer in his first try at bat in the second inning, flied out to centerfield in the third, but redeemed himself in the fourth inning with a

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Tyrone Omar, who plays outfielder for Chura, made two RBIs in their 17-6 win over Advance in the Chamolinian softball league on Wednesday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Superless Monday

"Hey Bob, where's the big Super Bowl party Monday?" asked my friend. I had to stop and think. "I don't think there are any big parties but there should be some small ones around."

Oh, the good ol' days … where did they go? But like Jack Beauregard said in *My Name is Nobody*, "There never were any good ol' days. They were just days."

It wasn't that long ago that hotels such as the Pacific Islands Club sponsored huge Super Bowl parties with giveaways galore from beer sponsors. Hundreds of people took annual leave or called in sick to attend them. Nowadays there's a more subdued atmosphere it seems. One reason, I guess, is the out-migration of so many die-hard sports fans from Saipan. Another is that live televised sports has become the norm and is no longer that special.

I still remember Super Bowl XIV in 1980. Saipan Cable TV did not carry the game live but was bringing from Guam a tape for airing *the same day* which at that time was A BIG DEAL. I managed to work all day without hearing the score. As soon as someone

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OFF THE BENCH

By BOB COLDEEN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Coldeen is a longtime journalist in the CNMI and is currently the news director of KSPN2